

At any rate, the Virginia scenic rivers study is in progress. It is being conducted on a statewide basis by the Department of Planning, School of Architecture, University of Virginia. Study staff have recently been on the Rappahannock.

It would seem logical to defer action on the Salem Church proposal until the Rappahannock scenic rivers study is available. I am sure this feeling would be shared by those who have contributed to the study—and perhaps by the general assembly which approved House Joint Resolution 162 only 3 months ago.

Mr. Chairman, 41 percent of Salem Church benefits are attributed to outdoor recreation; it is more an outdoor recreation project than anything else. Yet the Salem Church proposal has come under intense fire because of its impact on existing recreational and environmental values. Further, since preparation of the corps proposal, the Virginia Electric & Power Co. has announced plans to construct, a few miles away on the North Anna River, an 11,000-acre reservoir which would be available for public use.

Perhaps due to these facts and conditions, I detect growing question in Richmond as to validity of the 41-percent recreation benefit figure.

The scenic rivers study—due to be completed November 1, 1969—should help in analysis of this figure.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to make these comments.

(House Joint Resolution No. 162 follows:)

(Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 1968.)

(Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 1968.)

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 62—DIRECTING THE COMMISSION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION TO STUDY WAYS AND MEANS OF PRESERVING VIRGINIA'S SCENIC RIVERS AND STREAMS

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL LAWS

Whereas, a number of Virginia's rivers, streams, runs and waterways, including their shores and immediate environs, possess great natural and pastoral beauty, and should be preserved in their natural condition in order to assure continued public enjoyment of their scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historic and other values; and

Whereas, the increase in population of inhabited areas and industrial developments in many parts of Virginia may impair or threaten the great natural and pastoral beauty of certain of the Commonwealth's scenic rivers and streams or tions thereof, possibly leading to federal interest and programs to protect them; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Delegates, the Senate of Virginia concurring. That the Commission of Outdoor Recreation is directed to make a study of Virginia's rivers, streams, runs and waterways to identify those which possess great natural and pastoral beauty, and to study and recommend ways and means of protecting and preserving these scenic Virginia rivers and streams by State, regional, local and private cooperation or other action. All agencies of the State shall assist the Commission in its study upon request. In making this study, the Commission shall consult and work closely with the Division of Water Resources of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development and with the State Water Control Board.

The Commission is authorized to accept and expend gifts, grants and donations from any and all sources for the purpose of carrying out its study. The Commission shall complete its study and report to the Governor and General Assembly by November one, nineteen hundred sixty-nine.

Mr. DENNIS. That concludes my statement, Mr. Chairman, and I thank you for the opportunity of appearing before you.

Mr. JONES. Thank you, Mr. Dennis. Mr. DuVal, please.