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CONNECTICUT RIVER PARKWAY AND RECREATION AREA

GOVERNMENT

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HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES SENATE

EIGHTY-NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

S. 2460

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
CONNECTICUT RIVER NATIONAL PARKWAY AND RECRE-
ATION AREA, IN THE STATES OF CONNECTICUT, MASSA-
CHUSETTS, VERMONT, AND NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

MAY 20, 1966

Printed for the use of the
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CONNECTICUT RIVER PARKWAY
AND RECREATION AREA

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CONNECTICUT RIVER PARKWAY AND RECREATION
AREA

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1966

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION OF
THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:07 a.m., in room 3110, New Senate Office Building, Senator Alan Bible presiding.

Present: Senators Bible, Moss, and Simpson.

Also present: Senator Ribicoff.

Staff members present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Roy M. Whitacre, professional staff member; David Richie, assistant staff member; and E. Lewis Reid, minority counsel.

Senator BIBLE. The subcommittee will come to order.

This is the time that has been regularly set and noticed for hearing on Senate 2460, a bill introduced by Senator Ribicoff on behalf of himself, Senator Cotton, Senator Dodd, Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts, and Senator Saltonstall.

The bill under consideration is one to establish a Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area.

The bill provides for a study to determine the appropriate boundaries of the area and a procedure to gain approval of these boundaries by the States and Federal agencies concerned. It provides also for the subsequent establishment of the national parkway and recreation area and acquisition of necessary lands and easements.

The recreation area would provide for the preservation of natural beauty and historic sites and for such forms of outdoor recreation as driving for pleasure, walking and hiking, picnicking, fishing, hunting, boating, camping, riding, bicycling, and winter sports.

The Department of the Interior has recommended that the scope of the bill be modified to provide only for the study of the proposed recreation area, suggesting that there are insufficient facts to make it possible to recommend establishment of a national recreation area at this time.

President Johnson in his February 23 message on preserving our national heritage, said:

For a region which now has no national park, I recommend the study of a Connecticut River National Recreation Area along New England's largest river in the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

A copy of the bill and the departmental report will be included in the record at this point.

(The data referred to follow:)

2 CONNECTICUT RIVER PARKWAY AND RECREATION AREA

[S. 2460, 89th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To authorize the establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area, in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) for the purposes of preserving the Connecticut River area and appropriate segments of land adjoining it in their natural condition for the public benefit and for outdoor recreation generally, and thereby to take full advantage of the priceless natural beauty and historic heritage that are represented in the region of the Connecticut River, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized, as hereafter prescribed, to establish the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area (hereinafter referred to as "area").

(b) The area established pursuant to this Act shall be administered so as to protect its essential natural values. Such area may include scenic roads or parkways to be used by passenger-carrying vehicles, but shall not include high-speed highways.

(c) The area shall be administered for the preservation of natural beauty and for such forms of outdoor recreation and objectives as driving for pleasure, walking and hiking, picnicking, fish and wildlife management, scenic and historic site preservation, fishing, hunting, boating, camping, riding, bicycling, winter sports and such other forms of outdoor recreation and use which the Secretary considers to be compatible with the preservation and administration of the said area for the public benefit.

SEC. 2. (a) In furtherance of the aforesaid purposes, the Secretary is authorized and directed to make a well coordinated study of the Connecticut River and adjacent lands from its source to its mouth in order to determine the most appropriate portions that may feasibly be included within the said area. Such study shall be coordinated with other Federal and State programs relating to outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation. It shall take into consideration other planning activities relating to the particular region in order that a flexible plan may be prepared to accomplish the purposes of this Act and in order that such establishment may have a minimum impact upon other essential operations and activities in the Connecticut River area generally. The study shall be coordinated also with highway planning, Federal and State, and shall make due allowance for necessary economic use of the river area.

(b) After completion of his study hereunder, the Secretary shall notify the Governors of the respective States that are directly involved and the heads of Federal agencies having particular interest in the matter with regard to the boundaries that he proposes to establish for the said area, together with other pertinent information. A period of ninety days shall be allowed by the Secretary for consideration of his proposed plan and for the receipt of any recommendations thereon. At the request of any such Governor, the Secretary shall hold public hearings to receive additional views and recommendations concerning such proposed boundaries of the area. Following his consideration of recommendations received, and the making of such adjustments as he finds are desirable, the Secretary is authorized to establish the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area by the issuance of notice of the boundaries thereof, which shall be published in the Federal Register. The boundaries of the area may include such portions of the said Connecticut River and contiguous or noncontiguous portions of the land adjoining the river as the Secretary determines from his study to be desirable.

(c) Following establishment of the boundaries of the said area, the Secretary of the Interior shall inaugurate a flexible procedure relating to necessary land and water acquisitions or control of the area for purposes of this Act. For these purposes, he is authorized to accept donations of real or personal property; to acquire interests in land, including easements, when he finds this procedure to be adequate in carrying out the purposes of this Act; and where he finds it to be necessary, he is authorized to purchase or to acquire in such manner as he shall consider to be in the public interest lands and waters, or interests therein, within the area established pursuant to this Act: *Provided*, That in carrying out these activities, it is the intent of the Congress that the Secretary shall carry out such activities in a manner that will accomplish the purposes of this Act with a minimum impact upon private property owners. The States as well as political subdivisions and private agencies and persons are invited and encouraged to assist in bringing about the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 3. The Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area shall be administered, protected, and developed in accordance with such laws as may

be available to the Secretary for the conservation and management of the natural resources; utilizing to the fullest extent such laws he finds will best serve the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 4. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., April 22, 1966.

HON. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Your Committee has requested a report on S. 2460, a bill "To authorize the establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area, in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire, and for other purposes."

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area for the purpose of preserving the Connecticut River area and appropriate segments of land adjoining it in their natural condition for public benefit and for outdoor recreation generally. In connection with such establishment, the bill directs the Secretary to make a study of the Connecticut River and adjacent lands from its source to its mouth in order to determine the most appropriate portions that may feasibly be included in the national parkway and recreation area.

We are sympathetic with the preservation and recreational use objectives of the bill which are greatly in need of accomplishment near urban population centers of the United States. At the present time, however, we do not have sufficient information to recommend the establishment of the proposed Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area. We believe that a study should be conducted before bills of this kind are considered. The President, in his February 23 message on preserving our natural heritage, said "For a region which now has no national park, I recommend the study of a Connecticut River National Recreation Area along New England's largest river, in the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut." The enactment of a bill to establish the area in advance of the study would be premature.

The enactment of a bill to authorize the study recommended by the President is not strictly necessary because this study could be conducted under present authority. We believe it would be appropriate, however, to enact a study bill as an expression of congressional interest and emphasis.

We strongly endorse a study for the purpose of examining the feasibility and desirability of establishing a Connecticut River National Recreation Area, and accordingly recommend that S. 2460 be amended along the following lines:

1. Amend section 1 to read as follows:

"In order to consider preserving the Connecticut River area and appropriate segments of adjoining land in their natural condition for public outdoor recreation, and preserving the priceless natural beauty and historic heritage of the river valley, the Secretary of the Interior shall study, investigate, and formulate recommendations on the feasibility and desirability of establishing all or parts of the Connecticut River Valley from its source to its mouth in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire as a Connecticut River National Recreation Area. The Secretary shall consult with other interested Federal agencies, and the State and local bodies and officials involved, and shall coordinate his study with applicable highway plans and other planning activities relating to the region. In conducting the study, the Secretary shall hold public hearings within any State involved, upon the request of the Governor thereof, for the purpose of receiving views and recommendations on the establishment of a national recreation area."

This amendment changes the bill into a study authorization. It also requires coordination with other Federal and State programs, and public hearings on request, as is now required by section 2 of the bill.

2. Amend section 2 to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior shall submit to the President, within two years after the date of this Act, a report of his findings and recommendations. The President shall submit to the Congress such recommendations, including legislation, as he deems appropriate. The Secretary's report shall contain, but not be limited to, findings with respect to—

"(a) the scenic, scientific, historic, outdoor recreation, and the natural values of the water and related land resources involved, including driving for pleasure, walking, hiking, riding, bicycling, swimming, picnicking, fish and wildlife management, scenic and historic site preservation, hunting, fishing, and winter sports;

"(b) the potential alternative beneficial uses of the water and related land resources involved, taking into consideration appropriate uses of the land for residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation purposes, and for public services; and

"(c) the type of Federal program that is feasible and desirable in the public interest to preserve, develop, and make accessible the values set forth in subsection (a), including the consideration of scenic roads or parkways, and that also will have a minimum impact on other essential operations and activities in the area, and on private property owners."

This amendment specifies some of the subjects to be included in the study, and includes the principles now included in subsections 1(b) and (c).

3. Delete section 3 and renumber the following section.

4. Amend the title of the bill to read:

"To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility and desirability of a Connecticut River National Recreation Area, in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire, and for other purposes."

If the bill is enacted, the study authorized will be coordinated with the work of the proposed New England River Basins Commission which is in the process of being established under the Water Resources Planning Act (79 Stat. 244).

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY R. ANDERSON,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Senator BIBLE. Our first witness this morning will be the Secretary of the Interior, Secretary Udall.

Mr. Secretary, we are delighted to welcome you this morning.

STATEMENT OF HON. STEWART L. UDALL, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, ACCOMPANIED BY EDWARD C. CRAFTS, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Secretary UDALL. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I have a prepared statement. It is short and to the point, and I will read most of it and make a few other comments.

I do appreciate Senator Ribicoff deferring to me. The President is coming over to my Department in a few minutes to speak to the Department, and I must return downtown.

Senator BIBLE. Very well.

Secretary UDALL. Mr. Chairman, I would like to begin by saying nice things about this subcommittee and also about Senator Ribicoff who is the sponsor of this bill. I think something has happened in this country in the last few years. I think the fact that this subcommittee has probably done more significant conservation work in the eastern part of the United States in, let us say, the last 5 years than all of its predecessors back over a century, I think that is enormously significant. I need not refer to all the projects and proposals the committee has considered, but I think this one today that Senator Ribicoff and his colleagues in New England have sponsored is symbolic of the type of new action and new plans that are moving forward. I was very pleased, and I thought it was well deserved, to notice in the morning press a column by John Chamberlain commenting on Senator Ribicoff's leadership in so many areas that concern the quality of the environment, and he referred to him as an

environmentalist. I would like Senator Ribicoff to know I would prefer the term "bourbon conservationist." I think it is a tremendous thing to me the way some of the Senators and Congressmen see the protection and enhancement of the quality of the American environment as a major issue of our times. I think this legislation today is very much in point.

I am pleased to testify on this bill because I think that it offers the one big opportunity for the Federal Government, the States, the local people all working together to achieve major objectives.

We have at the present time, Mr. Chairman, a Potomac River planning effort that is going forward and moving ahead quite successfully. In fact, we have some action programs arising out of it. There has been a lot of furor on the Hudson River and many of us have spent hours talking about it and how we get organized. I hope we can get better organized in the near future. I discussed this with Governor Rockefeller the day before yesterday on the phone.

President Johnson in his natural heritage message last February recommended the study of the Connecticut River National Recreation Area along New England's largest river in the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. The Connecticut is a very unusual river. It has its headwaters right on the Canadian border, comes down through four States, and is one of the country's most beautiful rivers, although the Senator will not mind if I say it is also one of the most polluted rivers as well, and that is another problem that all of us are working on.

These States have now no national parks, national recreation areas, or national seashores except for the splendid seashores and dunes of Cape Cod. In other words, the National Government has not made a contribution in this area.

The Department report on Senator Ribicoff's bill a month ago expressing sympathy with its objectives of preserving the natural beauty and outdoor recreation opportunities of the river is on file with the committee. We recommended, however, that the bill be amended to provide for a 2-year study of the area with the directive to submit findings and recommendations to the President at the end of that time. We chose the study route because we do not now have information for the full stretch of the river which would enable us to recommend establishing a national recreation area.

It was my pleasure last September to go upstream from the mouth of the river at Saybrook to Hartford by boat in the company of Senator Ribicoff, Governor Dempsey, and Congressman St. Onge, who is here today. Although the river flows through the heart of the heavily settled and industrialized eastern seaboard, I was greatly impressed with the beauty and the wildness of stretches of the river, its shoreline, and bordering hills as we were able to view them from the boat. I know that other stretches of the river further north through Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire are equally beautiful. A year or two ago, the river from near its source in the Connecticut lakes downstream was explored for potential wild river status.

What we are thing about here is a ribbon of recreation and natural beauty along New England's largest river to preserve and develop opportunities for outdoor pleasure. There would be a minimum of disruption of the existing land pattern. Zoning, scenic easements, some fee acquisition for development of access points, some low-speed

passenger vehicle roads, perhaps a new concept of scenic parkways worked into parts of this area. In other words, what we are talking about is looking at developing something which, if not an entirely new concept, might have many new features in it for this unique part of the country.

We could also take advantage of the historic and scenic features that dot the landscape here.

I do not believe that a study if conducted would involve wide reaches of land back from the river, but for the most part would be limited to the shoreline viewable from the river. At least protect the shoulders of the river and the scenic part of it.

Studies of proposed national recreation areas and seashores could be conducted by the Department under present authority. However, in view of the length of the river involved, about 400 miles—and the fact that you have four States, and the magnitude of the proposal—I think it would be much wiser to have specific authorization or directive from the Congress. This is the reason why we think Senator Ribicoff's bill is the right approach and represents a wise step.

The Connecticut River Basin has nearly 2 million residents. Within a 250-mile radius, over 40 million people reside. It is one of the few major eastern rivers which is relatively wild and undeveloped down to its mouth. In fact, it was said the day we were with Senator Ribicoff—this will interest the committee—that the Connecticut River is the only river of its size in the world that does not have a major city at the mouth of it. This is an interesting thing. The river for that reason represents in our judgment a very unusual opportunity.

In recent years Congress has authorized a number of national recreation areas, including Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity in California and Delaware Water Gap in Pennsylvania last year. Others are pending. The national recreation area concept is a flexible one and certainly the Connecticut River and its valley is worthy of special study to determine whether it should be added to this growing list of superlative areas dedicated to outdoor recreation and natural beauty.

I would just like to say, Mr. Chairman, because the Federal Government has never made a significant contribution in this area, I think this is something we would approach with a great deal of enthusiasm, working in partnership with the State and local people. I hope that we can be back here a couple of years from now with plans that will enable us to do something that will be of great benefit to this region.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. This sounds like a good proposal. It is a study proposal rather than authorization of a recreation area, if I understand you correctly. That is the effect of your amendatory language.

How much will the study cost?

Secretary UDALL. I will ask Dr. Crafts to answer that.

Mr. CRAFTS. Mr. Chairman, the best estimate we have—

Senator BIBLE. Would you identify yourself for the record.

Mr. CRAFTS. I am Edward Crafts, Director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

Our best estimate at the moment is that over the 2-year period it will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Senator BIBLE. And you will complete the study in 2 years when the money is made available?

If this bill were to be enacted into law this session, then you would be in a position to ask for a supplemental so you could get the money to go forward?

Mr. CRAFTS. No, Mr. Chairman. In the light of the action on the appropriation bill for next year, we have taken a look at this and if this bill is passed this session, we will have sufficient funds that we can go ahead on the first year of the study starting in July. We will not have to ask for more money.

Senator BIBLE. Starting in July—

Mr. CRAFTS. Of this year.

Senator BIBLE. Of 1966.

Mr. CRAFTS. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. With the funds that are available to you.

Mr. CRAFTS. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Well, you people always intrigue and delight me when I find that you have some funds that just happen to be handy for certain things. We just completed your appropriation bill, as you know, and we treated you very well. I am glad we left a little excess in there so if this is enacted into law, you will have the money to carry forward the study.

You say it will cost between \$75,000 and \$100,000?

Mr. CRAFTS. I might say on that point, Senator, one of our appropriation items is an item for study of appropriate areas and to find the money to do this means an adjustment in priorities. It means less attention than we had planned in some other areas, such as wild rivers, perhaps less attention on the study of the conservation values of surplus military lands, and this sort of thing. It is an adjustment of priorities. It is not that we have excess money just floating around.

Senator BIBLE. The reason I pressed the point is that we just finished our markup and action on the Interior appropriation bill. One of the items in there was an item that a fellow member of our committee, Senator McGovern, had sponsored to study the Missouri between Yankton and some other place on the Missouri, at an estimated cost of \$50,000. We passed a resolution and you good people said, "Well it is all right to pass a resolution but we cannot do it unless we receive \$50,000."

Here you say we have money that is available. Of course, we put language in the report that directed you to go ahead and make that study out of available funds.

Mr. CRAFTS. That is right.

Senator BIBLE. So I imagine that you are going to be able to manipulate those priorities so you will have the money to make the McGovern study as well as this.

Mr. CRAFTS. This is right. In view of the directive that the conferees put in on the McGovern study, this authorizes us to take money from an appropriation item that we would not otherwise have the authority to do.

Senator BIBLE. Very well. I wanted the record clear on that point.

The only additional question that occurs to me, Mr. Secretary, and Mr. Crafts, is, What type of recreation areas do we have between the Canadian border and where the Connecticut spills into the ocean over the stretch of 400 miles? What county recreation areas or State recreation areas are available if we were to come down the Connecticut?

Mr. CRAFTS. There are a variety of State forests and State parks. I cannot answer the question on county areas. We have the State recreation plans for all four of those States. We can put something together for you on this, but I can tell you that there is relatively little public land, State or county or Federal in this area.

The largest bodies are the Green Mountain National Forest and the White Mountain National Forest. The Green Mountain forest is on the crest of the Green Mountains in Vermont and the White Mountain forest is in the White Mountains in New Hampshire. On the slopes of those two mountain chains that feed into the Connecticut River there are some national forest lands. But a substantial portion of those two national forests are outside the Connecticut River Basin and some considerable distance from the Connecticut River itself.

Senator BIBLE. I realize your proposal is a study bill and maybe the question is premature, but what is the general ownership pattern through which this river passes? Is this through forest land or is it largely privately owned?

Mr. CRAFTS. It is largely private owned. I think as far as the State parks go in the reasonable proximities of this area, there are only about 11,000 acres in this whole 400-mile stretch.

Senator SIMPSON. I did not hear you.

Mr. CRAFTS. I am sorry. It is largely private ownership and there are about 11,000 acres of the State parks reasonably close to the river. As to the character of the land of the river basin which, of course, goes clear back to the divide, it is about 75 percent forested lands, mostly small woodlots, scattered pieces of woods and this sort of thing. Other lands along the river are farmlands, pasture lands, and so on.

Senator BIBLE. You do not envision, Mr. Secretary, creating a national recreation area 400 miles long, do you?

Secretary UDALL. No, indeed, and this is the reason, Senator, that we feel a study is really necessary. It is unlike any situation that the committee has considered. It is unlike Tocks Island, for example, Delaware Water Gap, as we called it. There has never been any overall planning or overall approach to this. Based on the part of the river I saw and what I heard from Senator Ribicoff and Governor Dempsey and the Congressman and some of the talks I have had with the Massachusetts people, there is an opportunity here, because this is one of the oldest and earliest developed parts of our country, maybe to develop some new concepts.

We do not know what we are going to turn up with, and that is the reason we are rather excited about it. We would like to see what we can do working with the States on this.

Senator BIBLE. Very well, Mr. Secretary.

The Senator from Utah.

Senator MOSS. What would be the effect on land values if we had a 2-year study of this? Would it not tend to cause a lot of speculation and increase in land values for acquisition?

Secretary UDALL. Senator, we always, of course, run that risk. However, until we come out with specific proposals which we will not unveil until the 2-year period is up, I do not think a gun is pointed at any particular area or any particular pieces of land. I think you are going to have to have in this region very heavy use of scenic easements, voluntary easements. I do not think we contemplate massive acquisi-

tion of land. I do not think that the people of the States would go along with that.

I think we are going to have to have some acquisition of key areas, perhaps have scenic parkways that would have protected scenic corridors, protect the slopes and the hillsides that, at least on the lower Connecticut, you can see from the river to the rim. This is what I know the people of Connecticut want to protect. It should be protected because it is something very special in this part of the country.

Senator MOSS. Is the river navigable all the way up to the Canadian border?

Secretary UDALL. I think the answer to that is "No." There are some dams. It is navigable up to Hartford.

Senator MOSS. So your study, I suppose, would include the possibility of locks around those dams?

Secretary UDALL. Well, there is a whole series of problems that we have to study. I think in saying 2 years, it will take the people 2 years to analyze all the problems and come up with some good proposals.

Senator MOSS. Thank you. I have no more questions.

Senator BIBLE. I would just observe that I think the question the Senator from Utah asked is very pertinent, that is, concerning land values. The years I have worked on this park problem and many of the parks and recreation areas and seashores that we have created, as the Secretary and Mr. Crafts know, the land value issue is the most troublesome problem we have. Even after we create these areas, our estimates or your estimates are never realistic and the costs are likely to double or triple. I do not know what, in particular, you can do about it.

I am sure you will come forward with some kind of recommendations in the near future, whether you were to study this under your own broad general power or do it specifically under the Ribicoff bill. I prefer a specific bill for an area this large. The people along the river are thereby alerted that there is a possibility of having a national recreation area. You cannot keep it a secret.

I just do not know how you avoid the land value problem, but it is a vexatious problem and one that concerns this committee as well as the Appropriations Committee. In the time that I have served on this committee, the time I have been chairman of the parks and recreation subcommittee, I do not think there is one single solitary instance where you people have had a realistic estimate of cost. It has always been exceeded anywhere from two to three to four to five times. I have no easy answer to it. I have talked to each of you about it. I know you are going to be heard on an increase in authorization for Point Reyes to use that as a vehicle to explore this whole problem. I know Dr. Crafts has some possible suggestions as to how we might avoid it. I do not know of any tougher problem we have in the creation of parks than that one—the increase in value problem.

The Senator from Wyoming.

Senator SIMPSON. Mr. Chairman, I want to concur in the remarks you just made.

Mr. Secretary, I want to commend you again for coming up with something that is going to be of advantage to the country in an area where there are so many people. We tried to do something similar

for Great Falls here on the Potomac. I hope you go ahead with that one in the best possible way.

I want to ask you this. It seems to me, under the law, you are authorized already to go ahead and make a study of this. How did it happen that you did not make it? You have not missed very many opportunities to make studies.

Secretary UDALL. I think I can answer that very candidly, Senator, in that there are so many proposals that have been put forward that our means are stretched very thin. We discussed this with Senator Ribicoff. This is a big proposal and a very difficult one to study. It is not going to be easy to do. You cannot put a few men on it a couple of weeks. Therefore what the committee does when it passes this legislation is, in effect, to give it some kind of priority status, and also to let the people of the State know that it is not just us intruding and studying, but that the Senator, the Congressmen, and the Congress want to do it.

Senator SIMPSON. You could do it, you have the authority even now.

Secretary UDALL. We would do it but I do not think it would be nearly as effective.

Senator SIMPSON. You have the money to do it also.

Secretary UDALL. We can make adequate money available a lot more readily if Congress passes this bill. Let me put it that way.

Senator SIMPSON. You would not want the bill passed with its present language.

Secretary UDALL. We have suggested some amendments.

Senator SIMPSON. I concur heartily in those recommendations, but I still cannot see why you do not go ahead. You have the personnel, you have the money, and you have the authority. Why not go ahead and have it brought back to the Congress and then the Congress can act on your proposals?

Secretary UDALL. What if the States or some local officials or others say, "Who sent you in here?" I mean, by what right are you undertaking to study a stretch of 400 miles of river?

This is the thing that bothers us a bit. I think the bill, as an expression of congressional feeling of the values involved and what should be done, is a good way to approach it.

Senator SIMPSON. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. We realize your prior commitment and you are excused.

Dr. Crafts, would you mind staying in case a question comes up?

Mr. CRAFTS. Yes, I will be glad to stay.

Senator BIBLE. The Senator from Connecticut.

STATEMENT OF HON. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Senator RIBICOFF. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for giving me the opportunity to appear before you today.

I introduced this bill last September—along with Senators Dodd, Saltonstall, Edward Kennedy, Cotton, and McIntyre—because I was convinced that the time has come to take decisive and dramatic action to preserve the beauty of the Connecticut River Valley.

Our Nation is the beneficiary of the wisdom and foresight of the men—including many men who served on this committee—who built our great system of national parks. Our national park system provides in fact a model for the entire world.

I have consistently supported our park system—and as an easterner, I take great pride in the magnificent parks of the American West. And now we have begun to move vigorously in providing national parks and recreation areas in the urban east, where they are also badly needed.

The Connecticut River Valley affords us an opportunity to take another step forward toward meeting the legitimate needs of the American people for outdoor recreation, for scenic beauty, and for just plain peace and quiet away from the city streets. About 1,680,000 people now live in the Connecticut Valley itself. By the year 2000, the number is expected to nearly double to 3,110,000. More than one-fifth of America's people are already crowded into the strip of land that runs from southern New Hampshire to Washington, D.C.

We are now an urban nation. Our population numbers over 195 million. Two and a half million new Americans are born or come to our country every year. And all of us want, more and more, to live in the cities. While our total population has spiralled, our farm population has plummeted—from 23 million in 1950 to 13 million in 1964.

Our cities and towns need breathing space. Our children must have places to play, hills to climb, quiet woods and open spaces. If we are not to resign ourselves to a future paved with asphalt and concrete, the time to act is now.

All levels of government have a responsibility for local parks and playgrounds, for open space, for State parks, and for broad Federal parks in areas like the Connecticut River Valley.

From Fourth Connecticut Lake in New Hampshire, near the Canadian border, to its mouth at Old Saybrook, Conn., the Connecticut River rolls for more than 400 miles between farms and pastures, green hills and country towns. It also passes a few large industrial and urban areas, near cities like Springfield, Holyoke, Hartford, and Middletown. But the surprising thing about the Connecticut Valley is that it has remained so undeveloped in the midst of such urban growth.

But the valley—like so many other beautiful parts of America—is slowly being eaten away. The developers are moving in and industries are springing up next to the river. We now see the junkyards, the high-tension wires and all the other hallmarks of our industrial urban society. The time has come to call a halt along the banks of the Connecticut River to man's urge to cover our land with asphalt and concrete.

We are rapidly reaching the point where it will no longer be possible to ask, "Should the Connecticut Valley be saved?" In a short time we will be wondering whether any action at all will save what is left. And that is why I respectfully urge this subcommittee to act on S. 2460.

As the committee is well aware, S. 2460 is a broad measure which would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make a coordinated study of the Connecticut Valley, receive the recommendations of the Governors of the affected States, establish boundaries for a national

parkway and recreation area, hold hearings, establish the areas, and administer them for the public use and benefit.

I have read the Department of Interior report to this committee on S. 2460, and I understand that the Department has recommended that the bill be amended so as to authorize a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a Connecticut River National Recreation Area. Having discussed this matter with the Secretary of Interior and with representatives of his Department, I am in full accord with the Department's recommended amendments. I can understand the desire of the Secretary to proceed with a study on which to base his detailed recommendations to the Congress.

This study also has the support of President Johnson, who stated in his message to the Congress on pollution control and conservation:

For a region which has no national park, I recommend the study of a Connecticut River National Recreation Area along New England's largest river, in the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

And so I say let us get on with the job. We have begun to recognize that the quality of our environment affects the quality of our lives.

The time of decision is at hand: Do we consign ourselves and our children to a future bounded by asphalt and concrete pavements, lighted by neon glare and filled with the wastes of urban industrial society? Or do we act, and act now, to preserve what we have left of nature's beauty, and clean up what we have polluted?

I believe the choice is clear. Our woods and fields, our lakes and our rivers are precious assets. The Connecticut River and its valley are priceless. They have been placed in this generation's care, and we are the stewards for the future. We must preserve what we have before it is too late, before we have lost our heritage and failed in our job as trustees.

Mr. Chairman, you asked about available camping areas on the river. I have a book here called the Connecticut River Guide put out by the Connecticut River Watershed Council which has all the information concerning camping areas and canoeing facilities along the river which I would like to place as part of the record.

Senator BIBLE. It will be incorporated in the record by reference. (The document referred to will be found in the files of the subcommittee.)

Senator RIBICOFF. And I would also like to place in the record a statement indicating that the New England Governors, the six New England Governors, on September 8, 1965, voted to support this proposal.

Senator BIBLE. Without objection, that will be incorporated. (The statement referred to follows:)

[From the Times, Hartford, Conn., Sept. 8, 1965]

N.E. GOVERNORS SUPPORT RIVER PARKWAY PLANS

(By John K. Borland, Times staff writer)

NEWPORT, R.I.—The New England Governors Conference acted favorably today on a resolution supporting establishment of a Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area.

Governor Dempsey presented the resolution to his gubernatorial colleagues meeting here at The Elms, a large French provincial mansion.

Copies of the resolution will go to the New England Congressional delegation, Congressional leaders and President Johnson with the request that "every possible consideration be given to favorable action" on the bill.

The Congressional measure was introduced recently by U.S. Senator Ribicoff. The resolution, which got a push today from the governors, notes that:

The Connecticut River Valley represents "a public natural resource of unsurpassed natural beauty and historic heritage.

"Early action by the federal government, undertaken in cooperation with the states and people of the Connecticut River Valley region will assist immeasurably in preservation of this priceless natural asset for the benefit not only of New England but the entire nation."

The six governors, during the all-day session, discussed subjects ranging from railroads and airlines to electric power development.

Major attention was focused on preservation of the "long haul" rail service of the New Haven, since a subsidy plan now in the works should keep commuter service rolling for at least another year.

Governor Dempsey indicated he plans to make some observations on the rail service and what could be done to assure its continuance.

Aiding Governor Dempsey in the rail matter was executive director Samuel Kanell, Connecticut Transportation Authority. The latter has been given funds by the legislature to aid rail service.

Governor John Reed, Maine, brought up the subject of electric power development in the region. He also expressed concern over the fact that airports in some of the northern New England states were too small to handle some larger jet planes in which Northeast Airlines is interested.

Senator RIBICOFF. I would also like to place in the record various communications from individuals, organizations, communities, and editorial support up and down the valley for this proposal.

Senator BIBLE. The communications will be received and made a part of the record.

(The material referred to follows:)

CONNECTICUT RIVER IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL,
September 1, 1965.

HON. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
United States Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: We, the Keepers of the "World's Most Beautifully Landscaped Cesspool", note your bill to preserve the Connecticut River as a national parkway and recreational area. Please be assured this positive step forward has our enthusiastic support!

While the river has served the people well, there are two more needs to fulfill before its destiny is complete. The first, of course, is to provide recreational facilities for a booming population. This need is very real and the benefits derived very worthy, but it becomes almost unimportant when compared to the second need: the inevitable demand for more fresh water in the near future!

All groups studying this matter in past years have done their jobs well. The figures have been gathered; the reports have been written; the problems defined. Now we have arrived at a point to determine the best way to coordinate these congruous efforts.

The major problem, we all suspect by now, is pollution * * * particularly, industrial pollution. Little real progress in solving it has been accomplished to date by local authorities working independently, each isolated from the other by different conditions and motivations; different ends to meet. Connecticut River pollution is undeniably an interstate problem, and it will only be solved by an interstate approach. As such, it would seem quite proper for the federal government to take the initiative.

Therefore, it is suggested the bill call for establishment of a Connecticut River Authority, to be charged with the responsibility not only for preserving the river's beauty but to effectively develop the method and the means to end its pollution.

An opportunity to help further passage of your bill and the privilege of discussing its many aspects at a time suiting your convenience would be most welcome.

Sincerely,

ALAN E. RICH,
Chairman, Connecticut River Improvement Council.

STATEMENT OF RODERICK NASH FOR THE HANOVER CONSERVATION COUNCIL

As a community directly on the Connecticut River and grateful for the recreational opportunities it provides, Hanover, New Hampshire is deeply concerned about legislation affecting the waterway. Consequently, the Hanover Conservation Council, representing 533 citizens in the community, desires to express its strong support of S. 2460 and the far-sighted concept of regional, recreation planning it represents. While national parks and wilderness areas or wild river designations are naturally limited largely to the West, we do not feel that this means federal efforts at scenic and recreational protection have no place in New England. Rather, our legislators must look to other means, such as the present bill, to take advantage of existing natural assets in the East. We hope for your favorable consideration of S. 2460 and for speedy passage. The Hanover Conservation Council stands ready to serve the Department of the Interior in that part of its study concerned with the section of the Connecticut best known to our community.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD,
Storrs, Conn., October 19, 1965.

HON. ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: The members of this commission wish to express their appreciation to you for your interest and work in the field of conservation matters. It is gratifying to know that on the national, state, and local level there is an increasing awareness on the part of many people that now is the time to act if we are to protect and conserve our natural resources for the future.

We wish to express our support of your bill to authorize the establishment of a Connecticut River national parkway and recreation area and to thank you for bringing Secretary Udall to see this beautiful river valley.

We have recently begun issuing a local newsletter on conservation matters and are taking the liberty of enclosing the first two letters.

Respectfully,

THE MANSFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION,
SAMUEL G. DODD, M.D., *Chairman.*
MRS. AUDREY BARBERET
MRS. RUTH COOGAN
ROBERT PETERS
HAROLD PERKINS
PAUL TAYLOR
MRS. CLARA MCGUIRE, *Secretary.*

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN, CONN.,
September 10, 1965.

HON. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR ABE: We in Middletown have read with great interest your proposal of a national parkway along the Connecticut river, and we highly endorse this proposal.

Enclosed herewith please find a copy of a self-explanatory resolution which was presented by one of your very dear friends, Councilman Jack Paton at the Common Council Meeting held September 7, 1965.

We shall be most happy to undertake any endeavor which you feel would be helpful to you in having the proposal enacted into legislation. Incidentally, I look forward to being with you on next Monday on the river cruise.

With best wishes to you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

KENNETH J. DOOLEY, *Mayor.*

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown, That we enthusiastically endorse the proposal of Senator Ribicoff to establish a Federal Parkway along the Connecticut River, and

Further, that this Council urges an early start on comprehensive studies of the River Valley to establish the most feasible means of preserving the historic points and scenic views which may be lost or marred forever unless protected by the collective action of the Communities, State and the Federal Government.

We commend Senator Ribicoff for his far-sighted public interest, and urge quick and decisive action by the Congress and the Department of Interior.

On motion of Councilman Paton, seconded by Councilman Levin, it was unanimously voted that the foregoing Resolution be passed and adopted; nine members voting in favor thereof, and approved by His Honor Kenneth J. Dooley, Mayor.

Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown, September 7, 1965.

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASS.,
CONSERVATION COMMISSION,
August 30, 1965.

HON. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: Congratulations on your bill calling for a comprehensive study of the Connecticut River Watershed by the Secretary of the Interior with the aim of protecting the nature values of the area.

Time is against us in this work. Immediate action is imperative.

Sincerely yours,

BENEDICT C. BREITUNG, *Chairman.*

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD,
Wethersfield, Conn., September 7, 1965.

HON. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
*The United States Senate,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: From the enclosed copies of a column I write weekly for the Wethersfield Post, please note my special interest in the regeneration of the Connecticut River. In one of these articles I referred particularly to your good support for pollution control measures on an interstate basis.

These publications were made just a day or so before your most recent expression for a Parkway. This proposal has elicited widespread interest here. Certainly it is one of the more imaginative and at the same time practical applications for the conservation of our natural resources in open spaces, with an enormous potential for collateral economic and living values.

If there is anything I could do to help you advance this program, please feel free to call upon me in any way and be assured my most enthusiastic support.

Very truly yours,

FRANCIS J. MCCARTHY, *Mayor.*

P.S. Since dictating the foregoing this morning, I am very happy to receive from our manager an invitation to participate with Mayor Glynn on a tour up river Monday next. I certainly hope you will be there so that I may have an opportunity to congratulate you personally upon this splendid prospect and perhaps discuss with you further any contribution I might be able to make. F.J.M.

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, INC.
Fairfield, Conn., September 20, 1965.

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: May I compliment you on the excellent proposal you have made for the Connecticut River.

If I can be of any help, please call on me.

Sincerely,

P. BARSKE.

EAST HADDAM GARDEN CLUB,
East Haddam, Conn., September 20, 1965.

Senator ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: The East Haddam Garden Club wishes to express its deep thanks and appreciation to you for promoting the Connecticut River trip with Secretary of Interior Udall.

We are very interested in preserving the beauty of our river valley and if there is anything our club can do to be of assistance to you we will be happy to help in any way we can.

Sincerely,

JEAN S. BOS
Mrs. John H. Bos,
Corresponding Secretary.

CURTISS JOHNSON PUBLICATIONS, INC.,
Deep River, Conn., May 17, 1966.

Hon. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
*Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR ABE: Unfortunately, I can not be in Washington Friday to testify for your Connecticut River National Park Bill, but please place me, personally, and our newspapers, on record as being whole-heartedly in favor.

It is my sincere hope—and, I am convinced, the hope of the vast majority of people living in or near the Connecticut River Valley that the bill will be favorably received by the Congress and signed by President Johnson.

Thank you and best wishes.

HENRY E. JOSTEN,
Editor and Publisher.

PORTLAND, CONN., *May 17, 1966.*

Hon. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: I am in favor of establishing a Connecticut River National Recreation Area.

We live on the river but can not use it. My girl scout troop had made plans to go camping via riverboat. Not only was there no camping area, there were no landings safe enough for the boat to discharge passengers, other than Hartford, Middletown and old Saybrooke.

These youngsters cannot get a total conservation picture from hikes alone. (Neither should they be brain washed into thinking the automobile is the only mode of transportation.)

I would like to see their lives (and mine) enriched by the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

PATRICIA L. BARTON
Mrs. Donn C. Barton.

WALLINGFORD, CONN., *May 17, 1966.*

Senator JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Interior Committee.

DEAR SENATOR: Senator Ribicoff's bill to make a study of the Connecticut Valley to lay the groundwork for a Connecticut River National Recreation Area should be authorized by Congress. This is a great step in the right direction to prove that we humans do not insist on polluting permanently every beautiful river and waterway in our wonderful country.

We must stop industry from dumping its waste into our rivers and the irresponsible slobs who leave their offal—cars, mattresses, garbage—on the banks and in the water. And what better way to approach the problem and force a clean-up than to have our government designate places like the Connecticut River Valley as a National Recreation Area?

I really do believe, it's later than we think—and so, from one citizen who cares, please help Connecticut to help America lead the way back.

Sincerely,

MERRIL W. EHLER.

LENNOX, MASS., *May 19, 1966.*

Senator A. A. RIBICOFF,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.:

Full statement in support of S. 2460 under the study proposal made by the Department of Interior is being made today. Please record Interleague Committee on the Connecticut River as in favor of 2-year study at the hearing on May 20 before the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation.

Mrs. BERNARD H. FLOOD.

[From the *New Era*, *Deep River*, and the *News-Citizen*, East Hampton, Conn., Sept. 2, 1965]

COMPLETELY IN CHARACTER

The legislation and Senator Ribicoff's comments in the halls of Congress in support of his bill are completely in character. The former Governor of Connecticut and member of President Kennedy's Cabinet has long been one of America's most powerful and eloquent voices in the field of conservation.

We well remember his statement, at the time of the dedication of the restored Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam, that this lovely spot on the bank of the Connecticut River should always be a place where people can sit quietly, enjoy the view and "listen to the grass grow".

He has been a consistent advocate of measures to fight pollution, both of the water and of the air. Toward this end, he persuaded the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to arrange an interstate pollution conference in December of 1963—over the objections of both Connecticut and Massachusetts officials—in an effort to speed up the clean up of the Connecticut River. Toward this end, too, he asked the U.S. Public Health Service, just about a year ago, to make a thorough study to determine what effect, if any, the discharge of heated water into the Connecticut River from the Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company plant at Haddam Neck would have upon the water in the river, and the air above. The U.S. Public Health Service agreed to make the study, but Connecticut officials rejected it, saying they already had all the information they needed. Ten months later, however, Governor Dempsey announced that he would appoint a "task force" to study pollution problems in the state.

Politics being what it is, we know some Republicans will charge that Senator Ribicoff's actions are politically motivated, that he is merely trying to win votes for the next election. Maybe so; we wouldn't know. We do know that the Senator doesn't come up for re-election until 1968, which is still three years off and pretty remote at this time, so far as lining up votes is concerned.

Our own belief is that Senator Ribicoff is being honest and sincere in wanting to do everything possible to help preserve that natural beauty which still remains in the Connecticut River Valley. And even if his bill were politically motivated our reaction would be: Fine! If this is the type of legislation produced by political motivation, let's have more of it.

CONNECTICUT RIVER PARKWAY

We congratulate U.S. Sen. Abe Ribicoff (D-Conn.) for having the foresight to introduce legislation in the Congress which would establish a Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area for all the people of the Connecticut River Valley and the nation. Legislation of this sort is badly needed.

Ribicoff's bill would create a recreation area for the public in the Connecticut River Valley in four states; Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire, the four states that share the tremendous natural resource that the Connecticut River can, and should, be.

In a statement on the Senate floor a few days ago, the Connecticut Senator and former Governor said that the river is "for the most part still a thing of beauty but, unless we act soon, it will not be a joy forever." He pointed out that the Connecticut River Valley, "like so many other beautiful parts of our nation, is slowly but surely being eaten away. The developers are moving in, carving out great chunks of landscape. The junkyards are moving in, the oil tank farms, the power plants, and all the countless hallmarks of our modern society.

"We are rapidly reaching the point," he continued, "where it will no longer be possible to ask the question 'Should the Connecticut River Valley be saved?' Far too soon we shall be seriously wondering whether any action at all will be able to save what's left."

Designed to preserve the Connecticut River area and appropriate segments of land adjoining it for the public benefit—and for outdoor recreation generally—Senator Ribicoff's bill would provide for:

"Initial comprehensive study of the Connecticut River and adjacent lands by the Secretary of the Interior;

"A comprehensive review of the study's findings. Public and private officials and groups in the state concerned would be consulted; public hearings on the parkway boundaries could be requested by any of the Governors of the affected states;

"The establishment of the parkway and recreation area;

"Administration of the area, geared to protect natural values. For example, the parkway could include scenic roads, but not high-speed highways. Pleasure driving, walking and hiking, fishing, riding, picnicking—all could be enjoyed in the new area. Under the bill, the procedures for acquiring land would be flexible and reasonable, with a minimum impact on property owners.

"My bill can give to New England," Senator Ribicoff concluded, "what the great western states of our nation have so long enjoyed—breathing space, protected lands and a place where man can seek refuge from the crowded city streets."

"As our people become more mobile, and as our population crowds together in growing metropolitan areas, the need for park and recreation space grows. Will we consign our children and grandchildren to a life spent in asphalt playgrounds lit by neon signs? Do we really want a society bounded by concrete highways and filled to the horizon with the debris of an industrial civilization?"

"Man needs cities, but man also needs breathing space—peace, quiet—the view of a majestic river and of open skies."

[From the Republican, Waterbury, Conn., Sept. 15, 1965]

THE STATE'S RIVER

Even in the rain Secy. of the Interior Stewart Udall could see the possibilities of developing parts of the Connecticut River as a national park.

It poured all during the boat trip from Saybrook to Hartford Monday, but the excursion arranged by Sen. Abraham A. Ribicoff was still profitable, and ultimately may prove successful in the federal annexation of river land as a national park.

Sen. Ribicoff is the author of a bill to set aside parts of the Connecticut River throughout its interstate length for conservation and recreation purposes. Secy. Udall would be one of the key men to make the decision, and if the idea wins the support of the Johnson Administration it would be Mr. Udall who would go to Congress for the funds.

The Connecticut River has been neglected, polluted, and ignored. But its potential for boating, and fishing; as a wildlife preserve; as an open-spaces asset can be realized. It would, as Sen. Ribicoff sees it, be a patchy development. Existing industry and towns would not be affected, but unspoiled stretches would be protected.

Secy. Udall seems receptive to the idea, and it was especially reassuring to hear that the Executive Branch is in favor of developing more national recreational areas in the East, such as the Cape Cod National Seashore. Hitherto the government has bent its efforts toward the vast, and usually virgin territories in the West, where there is plenty of nature, but not too many people. Densely populated areas in the East neither possess large areas for such purposes, nor can the majority of working people in the Eastern states afford to travel to the open skies country in the rest of the nation.

A national recreation area doesn't have to be 50 miles long; enclose 70,000 acres, or be 100 miles from a major city. Connecticut has more people than many of the states with the most parks, and Connecticut pays more than its share of federal taxes, but Connecticut is one of the few states which does not have a national conservation or recreational project.

If Sen. Ribicoff prevails on Secy. Udall, we may.

[From the Brattleboro Daily Reformer, Oct. 11, 1965]

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

As it winds its way for more than 400 miles from Fourth Connecticut Lake in New Hampshire (200 yards short of the Canadian border) to Long Island Sound, the Connecticut River "passes through breathtaking scenery—rolling hills, quiet farmlands, pastures and woods, villages, towns and cities. And the river also runs through unsightly industrial developments—past ancient factories and junkyards, oil tank farms and power plants."

So spoke U.S. Senator Ribicoff of Connecticut as he introduced a bill in Congress that would preserve certain lands abutting the river in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut in their natural condition for the public benefit and for outdoor recreation generally.

Ribicoff's exciting and far-sighted bill to establish the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area would see unspoiled, river-adjoining lands preserved by the Secretary of the Interior in cooperation with the four states involved. The saved lands—not along the full length of the river and not necessarily in contiguous areas—would be administered for the preservation of natural beauty and for pleasure driving, walking, hiking, bicycling, picnicking, fish and wildlife management, scenic and historic site preservation, boating, camping, fishing, hunting, winter sports and other forms of public recreation.

Scenic roads or parkways could be included—but the bill specifies that the preserved areas include no high-speed highways. Due allowance would be made for necessary economic use of land along the Connecticut River so that business would not be deterred. Flexible land acquisition procedures with a minimum of impact upon property owners is called for, too.

Ribicoff, a Democrat who has been the nation's secretary of Health, Education and Welfare and Connecticut's governor, put his finger squarely on the Connecticut River challenge when he spoke for his bill before the Senate. He said:

"The river is, for the most part, still a thing of beauty. But unless we act very soon, it will not be a 'joy forever.' The Connecticut River Valley, like so many other beautiful parts of our nation, is slowly but surely being eaten away. The developers are moving in—carving out great chunks of landscape. The junkyards are moving in with the oil tank farms, the power plants and all the countless hallmarks of our modern society * * * Far too soon we shall be seriously wondering whether any action at all will be able to save what is left."

What we have in the Ribicoff proposal is a splendid opportunity to retain nature in the face of the onslaught of uncontrolled macadam and industry; a chance to be conservationists of our wildlife heritage against the challenge of the land-scarers who, in the name of "progress," uglify where they need not; a chance to provide quiet refuge and breathing space for the hurried and harried man in a time when the demand burgeons for park and recreation space.

The Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area bill is top-drawer legislation. Vermonters and New Hampshireites within the call of this newspaper should write their Congressional delegations—their governors, too—urging every effort to see the measure translated into reality. J.F.

[From the Eagle, Claremont, N.H., Nov. 9, 1965]

VALLEY PARKLAND DE LUXE

We've been learning more about the Ribicoff bill to authorize the establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area, about which we wrote recently. And the more we learn about it, the better it sounds.

Though referred to as the Ribicoff bill, it was co-sponsored also by Sen. Norris Cotton of New Hampshire, Sens. Kennedy and Saltonstall of Massachusetts and Sen. Dodd, like Ribicoff a Connecticutter. Introduced only about two months ago, it was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

What does the bill propose?

It authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish such a project "for the purposes of preserving the Connecticut River area and appropriate segments of land adjoining it in their natural condition for the public benefit and for outdoor recreation generally, and thereby to take full advantage of the priceless natural beauty and historic heritage that are represented in the region of the Connecticut River."

Including scenic roads or parkways but banning high-speed highways, the area "shall be administered for the preservation of natural beauty and for such forms of outdoor recreation and objectives as driving for pleasure, walking and hiking, picnicking, fish and wildlife management, scenic and historic site preservation, fishing, hunting, boating, camping, riding, bicycling, winter sports and other forms of outdoor recreation and use * * * compatible with the preservation * * * of the said area for the public benefit."

First step would be a coordinated study of the river and adjacent lands from its source to its mouth. Next would be a flexible plan of development, to be submitted to the governors of states and to the heads of federal agencies involved. Public hearings would follow, and the entire question studied and discussed.

Though a riverside parkland is chiefly contemplated, it is also stipulated that it may include "such portions of the said Connecticut River and contiguous or non-contiguous portions of the land adjoining the river as the Secretary determines * * * to be desirable."

Creation of such an area is definitely a long-range project, as is any similar major park development. For this reason, the sooner such a measure can be approved and implemented, the sooner can preliminary studies start.

In the upper House, it's anticipated that Sens. Ribicoff, Cotton, Kennedy, Saltonstall and Dodd will work for speedy consideration. In the lower House, Rep. James Cleveland (R-NH) has already advised us that he plans to back identical legislation in the next session of Congress. If early approval can be obtained from both Senate and House committees, early passage of the bill can be anticipated.

What strikes us as a basic piece of literature pertaining to the project is the Vermont brochure "Canoeing on the Connecticut River," put out last year by the Vermont State Board of Recreation and Water Resources Department.

Replete with information on water conditions, permits, camp sites and portages, it includes also a nine-section map covering the course of the river from the Canadian border to the Bay State line. This shows dams, bridges, boat landings, dangerous areas, points of interest—a veritable encyclopedia of water and waterfront data which should be invaluable to planners.

In our own area, such groups as the Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee Region Assn. and the Wilder Lake Assn., to name but two, should be highly helpful also. Private individuals, organizations, state planners on both sides of the river, can play their part.

The first step—the all-important step—is to sell Washington on the value of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area—its value to the Valley, to New England, to the nation. Any action we can take, any support we can provide, for such a forward-looking piece of legislation, we should do without delay. K.D.W.

[From the Journal-Courier, New Haven, Conn., Oct. 28, 1965]

ENVIRONMENT AT STAKE

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall was obviously impressed by what he observed on his recent boat trip on the Connecticut River, for he cites it as an object lesson on conservation in a guest editorial in the current issue of the Saturday Review.

Udall says: "Not long ago I made a day-long cruise on the Connecticut River in the company of Governor John Dempsey and Senator Abraham Ribicoff. Like most of our rivers, the Connecticut is in trouble. Scenically, its lower stretch from Hartford to the sea is surprisingly unspoiled. Its salt marshes, coves and creeks make it one of the East's most attractive riverscapes. But its appeal stops at the river's edge. One nauseated native recently called it 'the world's most beautifully landscaped cesspool.' Predictably, metropolitan Hartford (like New York City) looks to the back country for its water supply, for the river at its doorstep is unfit for municipal uses."

The Secretary of the Interior makes the point that "the country over, the very streams that should provide fresh water and outdoor recreation for all flow sullenly by our cities and emit odors that cause a river-loving people to turn away from them with distaste."

And in special reference to the public concern aroused by the Northeast drought, he warns that water conservation must be "the order of the day even in the 'wet' regions of the country." He proposes long-range regional planning be substituted for short-range local solution and "that communities and industries will hopefully adopt the conservation principle that those who use water owe a paramount

public duty of returning it to the ground, river or estuary in as near the original condition as possible." The quality of our over-all environment, he said, is at stake.

[From the Times-Reporter, Nov. 23, 1965]

BEAUTIFUL CESSPOOL

"The Connecticut River is, for the most part, still a thing of beauty. But unless we act very soon, it will not be a 'a joy forever.'"

These were the words of Senator Abraham Ribicoff, D., Conn., in his speech to the U.S. Senate last August when he introduced a bill to establish the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area.

Ribicoff described the problem in clear terms:

"Now the river is becoming a sewer, running befouled to the sea. One recent observer called the Connecticut River the world's most beautifully landscaped cesspool."

"We must clean up the Connecticut River, but we must also preserve the beauty of its banks, the stillness of its quiet coves, its majesty as it winds through wooded hills."

The purpose of the bill is to preserve the Connecticut River area and take segments of land adjoining it for the public benefit and for outdoor recreation.

That bill which did not get passed in the last session of Congress would authorize a study of the river and adjacent lands with full consideration for the economic use of the river. In accordance with the study the Secretary of the Interior would be empowered to proceed with land acquisition to carry out the plans. The bill would authorize the acquisition of easements and acceptance of donations.

Ribicoff suggested this plan as a counterpart of the great national park systems in the West. Even the suggestion stimulates opposition from those who see the Connecticut basin as an untapped source for private development and profit. Ribicoff's plan leaves opportunity for both kinds of development, public and private.

The chief virtue is the plan for the future development of the river system. If private and public interests can be blended in the planning the results will be advantageous for all. On the contrary if public and private interests battle over the river resource the results will be bad for all.

Senator Norris Cotton of New Hampshire co-sponsored the bill with Ribicoff. So far other New England senators have not taken a stand. The bill is certain to reappear when Congress convenes again.

Senator RIBICOFF. Senator Dodd wanted to be here but is otherwise detained. He asked me to have inserted in the record his statement, and I would hope it would be placed in, in full, and be considered as if it had been read by Senator Dodd himself.

Senator BIBLE. It will be incorporated in full in the record at the end of your presentation.

Senator RIBICOFF. And likewise I would want to incorporate, immediately after Senator Dodd's statement, a statement we have from Senator Saltonstall in support of this particular bill.

Senator BIBLE. That will be incorporated right after Senator Dodd's statement.

That is a very, very fine statement, Senator Ribicoff. I think you are to be commended for your interest. I understand that you agree that there should be a study.

Senator RIBICOFF. That is right.

Senator BIBLE. Rather than the immediate creation of a national recreation area.

Senator RIBICOFF. That is right.

Senator BIBLE. I frankly think this is wise, even though authority may exist for them to go forward. You do go through four States. This might pose problems. As I have indicated to you, I have a request from Senator Aiken and Governor Hoff to be here. I think

they probably were reading the original bill which created a recreation area rather than the proposals of the Interior Department to simply convert it into a study, and I will so advise them. I will hear them at a very early date so that I can get their views, and I will furnish them a transcript of the record made this morning.

Those of us who work in this park area, who look at the rivers of our great Nation, do find a constant erosion as civilization moves along and as the subdivider moves in. I could not capsulize your statement any better than by saying, let us get on with the job because time is of the essence. Probably it is a little overdue actually, but you can rest assured we will move forward very, very diligently on this, and very quickly, subject to hearing Senator Aiken and Governor Hoff and others if they might want to be heard.

Once they see the report of the Interior Department, they may have somewhat different views. I do not know. It is up to them.

I have no further questions. I commend you again.

The Senator from Utah.

Senator Moss. I wish to congratulate the Senator from Connecticut for his eloquent and moving statement on this whole general problem of preserving our heritage and redeeming it in places where we have already damaged it, which are many places, unfortunately. This is a program that I believe deserves great priority from the Congress and from all governmental levels. So I congratulate you, Senator, for the leadership you have shown.

Senator RIBICOFF. Thank you, Senator Moss and Senator Bible. May I say this is a beautiful river. As a lifelong resident of my State and having been Governor, I appreciate the great beauty. I think the amazing thing about the river is the fact that so much of it, in spite of urbanization, is unspoiled.

Secretary Udall and I rode up the Connecticut River from Saybrook. He was amazed, as you ride up the river, to see miles and miles of river so close to cities, miles of river that is still wild. No buildings, no factories. Of course, there are certain sections and stretches on the river that are built up heavily with tank farms for gasoline and oil and factories, and those we are going to have to skip. They are going to stay there. No one is going to disturb them.

But there are miles and miles of river and acres and acres stretching back from the banks of the river that would be beautiful for recreation areas. It is a beautiful sight. Frankly I would like, as one of my contributions as a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to help preserve this for future posterity.

While we take pride in the growth of our State, I do not want to see the beauty of my State destroyed. I love the village greens. I love the small towns. I love the hamlets. I am proud of the great industrial growth. I have watched the State grow, I have watched industry come in, I have tried to get industry to come in, but yet I am very well aware that people just cannot live by bread alone. There could be no greater tragedy than population growth so large that there would not be a blade of grass for people to see, or flower to pluck, or a tree to enjoy. While we have the opportunity in this great New England area, I would like to see as much of our natural beauty preserved as possible, because it would be tragic for this area and tragic for the Nation if it all became one large industrial complex. I am so anxious to preserve this for posterity.

Senator BIBLE. I share your sentiment, Senator Ribicoff.

The Senator from Wyoming.

Senator SIMPSON. Senator Ribicoff, you are one of the most intelligent and knowledgeable and articulate Senators that has ever come before us and you always plead your case very well. I found that out when you and I served together as Governors of our respective States.

I do want to be sure about the legislative background on this matter. You do agree with the recommendations of the Department of the Interior with respect to Congress having supervision instead of the bill as originally drawn.

Senator RIBICOFF. Yes, I do. The bill was drawn to get this thing started. I have had many conferences with the Secretary of the Interior and his staff and I agree that, because of the complications, this should be a study.

I would say, because it goes through four States, Congress should authorize it and I do not think the Department on its own should step in. I do believe that there should be congressional authorization of a project such as this and it would give it the stamp of approval. It would give it the status and it would make the job easier.

I do believe, too, that in the process of the study, the Governors of the people of all States concerned should have an opportunity to be heard. There is no question there will be some people who will oppose it. I would say that the Governors of the four States affected should have the opportunity to consult with the Department of the Interior while the study is being made and make a recommendation. I like this method. And while the Secretary might have gone off on his own, I think that it would be preferable to have a congressional authorization. I am pleased that if this authorization is made, the Secretary has funds to go ahead immediately.

Senator SIMPSON. I think the authorization is there. After hearing you this morning, I am inclined to agree with the prospect that it would be better to do it the way you and the Interior Department recommend.

Let me ask you this: You say these recreation areas will be selected after the study. What about stream pollution?

Senator RIBICOFF. Most of the stream pollution is in Massachusetts and Connecticut. There is not too much in Vermont and New Hampshire. A hearing was held in Hartford in 1963 by HEW on pollution control. An overall plan for Massachusetts and Connecticut and a 5-year program was laid out.

A recommendation is being filed today in Connecticut with the Governor of the State by a special Connecticut clean water task force. A \$150 million bond issue is proposed and will be recommended for the next session of the legislature, in order to move ahead rapidly in cleaning up the pollution of the waters in Connecticut, including the Connecticut River. I am confident that this will have the overwhelming support of the people of Connecticut and both political parties, that is, both the Democrats and the Republicans, and I would like to submit the task force report which is being filed today.

It is obvious that you cannot have a recreation area in polluted waters. Once there is an authorization for the study and the study is being made, I think there will be an accelerated program both in Massachusetts and Connecticut to clean up the river, because I cannot conceive of Congress voting funds for recreation on a polluted river.

Once upon a time the Connecticut River was a fisherman's paradise. When I was a boy it was a place in which people could swim. People will swim in the Connecticut River again, once the pollution is cleaned up. People will be able to fish in the Connecticut River. People will be able to camp along the Connecticut River and people will be able to enjoy the beauties of the Connecticut River. Elimination of pollution and recreation will go hand in hand. I know that after the study the Interior Department will make recommendations with regard to pollution. I think it should also be kept in mind that we have now transferred the responsibility for water pollution to the Department of Interior from HEW. The subcommittee that you and I are on, Senator Simpson, has held our hearings. There was no objection to it. So the Department of Interior will now be the boss for clean water as well as recreation and parks. They will be able to coordinate the entire attack in a constructive way.

Senator SIMPSON. I think you made a marvelous statement of just exactly what should happen. You are sanguine about the results of this proposed legislation.

Senator RIBICOFF. Very. I am very optimistic and very thrilled. I think this Nation is entering into a new era in the work that is being done in your committee by recognizing the great need to preserve America's beauty nationwide. I think this is great. Having traveled through the Western States, I am thrilled with the western parks. I think it is a tragedy that the East has been so slow in recognizing the need for the same type of parks, and yet I can understand why.

I commend this committee, which basically is western oriented by its membership for recognizing the needs of the urban east and for its willingness to do something about it. This, too, is thrilling.

Secretary Udall, the President and the Secretary of HEW talked to me about transferring the water pollution problems from HEW to Interior. I had been responsible for its administration and we had made great strides when I was Secretary. I have felt that all the problems of natural water resources should be handled together. You cannot separate the preservation and conservation of the water resources of our Nation from the pollution elements of water. If you try to preserve on one hand and pollute on the other hand you are destroying what you are trying to conserve. I thought it was a natural progression to place all the responsibility for water preservation, water conservation, and water pollution into one department and under the responsibility of one Secretary. I am pleased that Secretary Udall will now have that responsibility. I believe this approach will turn out to be a great asset for the overall conservation of our resources and the development of recreation water for our entire Nation.

Senator SIMPSON. I concur in that and I just wanted to point out that the States must have an awareness and responsibility in these matters.

Now, in my wonderful Wyoming, we either do not have the problem or if we had it, we have solved it. We have cleaned up our rivers. Fish again are swimming along with people in the North Platte, which is the great river in Wyoming. We did it through State agencies, through the Department of Health, and through the Governor's office, and we did it without coming to the Government for any funds. I think that the States have to make a substantial contribution because

this is of great importance to our citizenry. Certainly you are on the right track in Connecticut, and with your persuasiveness, I daresay you will stay there.

Senator RIBICOFF. Thank you very much.

Senator SIMPSON. I would hope that the Senator would invite the committee to visit the place so we can see it.

Senator BIBLE. We have already made this a condition precedent to passing on the bill. We will be very happy to see it.

Senator RIBICOFF. Let me say this. You are welcome to come and visit this area. I will be delighted at your convenience to be host to all of you and whoever would like to come to our State of Connecticut. You could be my personal guests, and all you have to indicate is when you would like to come and ride up this Connecticut River with me. We will make the arrangements.

Senator SIMPSON. May I ask one other question? You are so conversant with your own State. Would you want to make an estimate now that might help the committee to determine how many acres of privately owned land you suppose would be encompassed in the bill?

Senator RIBICOFF. I really do not know. The study would have to indicate this because it would vary. In many cases it would be a checkerboard pattern. I do not conceive that this is going to be a 400-mile-long recreation area. It obviously is not. There are certain places around Hartford and Portland and Springfield and Enfield that will not lend themselves to that, but there are other stretches that will. That is why I think this study is important, to see what sections of the river will lend themselves to the national recreation area concept.

You will run into areas where you will have mile upon mile of open areas and then you will have to skip a number of miles because it has been too built up to try to do anything with it.

Senator SIMPSON. I feel the authority is there and the money is there and the disposition is there. I would hope that some of the preliminary investigations and the study could be started now. I think it would enhance our situation in the Congress. But you seem to disagree with me, and so did the Secretary.

Senator RIBICOFF. If the committee told the Secretary to go ahead on his own, he would probably feel he has the clearance, which is all right with me. Basically, I would not presume on the procedures this committee would like to follow.

Senator SIMPSON. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. I think you make a good point on the study, though, if I might observe, because you do have problems involving four different States. We certainly ran into that very acutely when we labored long and hard to try to create the Indiana Dunes Lakeshore. We do not have it created yet. They said this was the playground of Illinois, and Indiana said "Play in your own State instead of coming over and invading us."

I think you have to go just a little cautiously on this to set it within the right framework.

Senator RIBICOFF. There is another point here. Let us assume that you did run into objections from a number of States. Let us say Vermont and New Hampshire want no part of it. I hope that will not be the case. I do not want to be in the position of forcing a concept against the wishes of any State. I know that we have the four

Senators from Connecticut and Massachusetts who are on the bill. We have the two Senators from New Hampshire.

The Senators from Vermont have not joined. I do not know what their attitude is. My understanding is that the Governor of the State is for it, but I certainly do not want to get into a conflict with the Senators from Vermont. If, however, for some reason Vermont would just as soon be left out, there is no reason why the study could not proceed for Connecticut and Massachusetts because, heaven knows, there are enough miles and there is enough land and enough people in Connecticut and Massachusetts to try to do something for those two States.

Senator BIBLE. I am sure that is a sound observation. We are mighty proud of our work on this committee. When I said we were going to visit the Connecticut River, I did not do this facetiously. In all of the areas that we have created the length and breadth of this Nation, from the Atlantic to the Pacific and the Canadian border to the Gulf of Mexico, we have visited every single solitary one of them. There is absolutely no substitute for observing them in person and even floating down the rivers. Some of the more vigorous members of our committee go swimming in the rivers and the lakes. This is a committee on which we think we have the feel of this great Nation of ours. As we travel the length and breadth of it, you get mighty proud of it. I will tell you that.

We will welcome you up on the rostrum, Senator Ribicoff.
(The report of the task force follows:)

THE ACTION PROGRAM OF THE CONNECTICUT CLEAN WATER TASK FORCE,
MAY 1966

(The contents of this report are to be considered privileged information until the report has been presented to Governor Dempsey.)

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PREFATORY NOTE

Clean water for the people of Connecticut—clean water in abundance for all to use and enjoy. Clean water that will help us to preserve the natural beauty we cherish in our state—clean water that will help us to achieve the economic growth to which we aspire.

That is the aim and the purpose of this report.

In October of 1965, one hundred citizens from all walks of life in our state responded to a request from Connecticut's Governor John Dempsey to join a "Task Force called together to examine the pollution problem that we know exists and tell us the best, quickest, and most efficient and economical way to eliminate it."

Literally thousands of voluntary citizen hours were spent during the ensuing six months by ten subcommittees in examining every aspect of this complex question.

Gradually the dimensions of the problem began to emerge.

First of all, it is clear that Connecticut is generously endowed with water—in natural rainfall and in the water that flows in our streams and rivers. The supply of water in Connecticut is more than sufficient to sustain the near doubling in population and the associated industrial growth expected over the balance of this century. In contrast to less fortunate parts of the nation, we have no permanent problem with the *quantity* of our water. Our problem—and one that is now at a critical stage—is with the *quality* of our water. In short: water pollution.

The essence of the water pollution problem in Connecticut—and elsewhere—has been stated with such clarity and succinctness by the League of Women Voters of the United States (in Facts & Issues Pub. No. 309, November 1965) that it is worth repeating here:

"Water pollution is not so much a water problem as it is a people problem. As people buy more and more products to satisfy their needs and desires, pollution from agriculture and industry mounts. As people continue to move into cities and suburbs, pollution from sewage is increasingly concentrated. As more people seek outdoor recreation, their sheer numbers degrade the quality of the water they crowd to enjoy. It is this increase in population, in urbanization, in production and consumption that makes water pollution a major issue."

The magnitude of the problem—present and future—in Connecticut can be assessed from the following estimates deduced from available data:

Although more than ninety percent of the effluent from municipalities and industrial operations receives treatment of some kind, only about one-half of the municipal sewage and one-quarter of the industrial effluent is *adequately* treated.

The inadequately treated municipal waste discharged into Connecticut waterways is the equivalent of one hundred million gallons per day of raw sewage. The industrial wastes discharged into our rivers and streams is the equivalent of another hundred million gallons per day of untreated industrial effluent.

If the reasonable assumption is made that future water use in Connecticut will keep pace with projections of national usage published in the Report of the Select Committee on National Water Resources (86th Congress), doubling of the municipal waste and a several-fold increase in industrial effluent can be expected within the next thirty-five years.

Long before this level of water use is attained, the citizens and industries of Connecticut will have learned to accept the principles of renovation, reuse, recirculation and redistribution of our water resources.

In the light of the dimensions of the problem sketched above, the Task Force examined the steps that should be taken to contain the problem before it completely escapes control. The following conclusions soon became apparent:

The technology exists to clean up Connecticut's waters.

The cost—while appreciable—is not exorbitant. Studies by the State Water Resources Commission indicate that the cost of constructing needed treatment facilities for municipal waste is approximately \$200,000,000, and for industrial wastes, \$30,000,000 or more. If allowance is made for amortization over ten years, interest, maintenance and operations, this cost averages out to something between thirty and forty cents per hundred cubic feet of waste. This is comparable to the cost of water delivered by a public water system. Literally, clean water is cheaper than dirt!

There is a real urgency in getting on with the job—since annual increases of about five percent in construction costs add more than \$10,000,000 to the ultimate bill for each year of delay.

New patterns of cooperative effort among several municipalities and indigenous industry, along the lines of the Mattabasset Sewer Authority, offer attractive opportunities to get on with the task—quickly and economically.

There is a growing recognition that, since the problem transcends municipal boundaries, the State has a responsibility, along with the Federal Government, to participate in the funding of sewage treatment facilities. An equitable allocation of costs is 30 percent to the State, 30 percent to the Federal Government and 40 percent to the municipality.

It is in the public interest to encourage the construction of private facilities for industrial pollution abatement by appropriate tax revisions.

Effective implementation of these steps will require strengthening the institutional instrumentalities within Connecticut and among the north-eastern states.

The recommendations in THE ACTION PROGRAM represent the effort by the Task Force to set before the citizens, the officials, the lawmakers and industry of Connecticut the principal elements of a seven-year program that will move our State with deliberate speed toward the goal of quality water suitable for public water supply, industry, agriculture, recreation, and propagation of fish and wildlife. Moreover, we believe that adoption of these recommendations will make it possible for municipal or regional, public or privately owned water supply systems to assure adequate clean water supplies for many years to come.

In addition, many thoughtful comments and suggestions are contained in the separate reports of the Subcommittees, included in Appendices to this Report. They may be obtained by writing to Commissioner Joseph N. Gill, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, State Office Building, Hartford, Connecticut 06115.

THOMAS F. MALONE,

Chairman, Connecticut Clean Water Task Force.

THE ACTION PROGRAM

The Connecticut Clean Water Task Force recommends to the Connecticut General Assembly:

1. Grants-in-aid from the State to municipalities of 30 percent of the cost of construction, reconstruction and enlargement of sewage treatment plants, sanitary sewer interceptors and necessary appurtenances, including systems to separate storm water runoff from sanitary sewers but excluding street sewers and collecting sewers. Planning costs of a project are to be considered part of the project cost for grant purposes. Grants to be increased to no more than 40 percent of the cost for facilities shared by two or more towns or provided by an intertown or metropolitan district where joint action is economically desirable and beneficial.

(Comment: The benefits of clean water are statewide and should be paid for in part by the State.)

2. Prefinancing by the State of Federal Government grants to municipalities whenever necessary to assure the municipalities of the full State and Federal assistance when they are prepared to start construction. Planning costs of a project are considered part of the project cost for prefinancing purposes.

(Comment: Grants from the Federal Government depend on annual appropriations. Prefinancing permits construction to go forward on the State's schedule. Municipalities will need to borrow only for their share of the cost.)

3. Advances by the State to municipalities for the preparation of construction plans and specifications for sewerage systems, up to six percent of the estimated cost of a project. This planning advance to bear no interest and to be deducted from the subsequent state grant for construction.

(Comment: Municipalities will be enabled to proceed promptly with engineering plans without waiting for loans from the Federal Government. Six percent of the estimated project cost will carry planning to the grant stage.)

4. Municipalities—to be eligible for the State grant and for the prefinancing of the Federal grant—must have completed all necessary planning and engineering, received approvals from the appropriate State and Federal agencies and start construction on a date specified by the State Water Resources Commission in accordance with a schedule aimed at completion of all treatment works by December 31, 1974.

(Comment: This provides a seven-year program, under the assumption that the legislation becomes effective upon passage.)

5. Authorization by the State of the issuance of \$150 million of bonds, to be sold as needed, to finance State grants and to prefinance Federal Grants.

(Comment: Amortization in ten years with interest of 5 percent would entail a gross annual cost of \$20 million, including prefinancing of Federal Grants.)

6. Revision of the State Corporation Business Tax to permit a one-year write-off of the cost of construction, reconstruction and enlargement of waste treatment plants or installations and appurtenances and to become effective starting with the calendar year 1967.

(Comment: So that industry will not be taxed for non-productive investment.)

7. Revision of the State Sales and Use Tax to exempt materials and equipment purchased, directly or by contractor, for construction, reconstruction, enlargement and operation of an industrial waste treatment plant, installations and appurtenances, starting with the calendar year 1967.

(Comment: To relieve industry from this tax for non-productive spending.)

8. Availability of State and Local Redevelopment Funds for industrial relocation to facilitate waste treatment within the State of those industries unable to deal properly with wastes in their present location.

(Comment: In some instances, pollution abatement can be combined with other advantages to industrial operations.)

9. Revision of the Statutes concerning water pollution control to enable Connecticut to adopt, before June 30, 1967, water quality standards and criteria applicable to Connecticut waters, including but not limited to interstate waters or portions thereof, and to provide a plan for implementation and enforcement of such criteria. In accomplishing this revision, the General Assembly should consider, among other things, the following objectives:

a. Leave the State clearly with the burden of proof to show pollution;

b. Relieve the State from the burden to prescribe specific method of treatment of wastes;

c. Relieve the State from the burden of proof that the cost of adequate treatment is reasonable and equitable, while recognizing that they are factors which must be considered;

d. Authorize the Commission to issue permits to all polluters within six months of effective date of the law, and fix a time limit for each permit, with due regard for the degree of pollution and complexity of the problems;

e. Leave the Commission's right to seek redress in Court against any polluter whose permit has expired or who has not complied with an order;

f. Leave the polluter with the right of appeal to a Court on grounds of legality or equity;

g. Authorize the State Water Resources Commission to require construction or installation of means of preventing intermittent or accidental pollution.

(Comment: A new legal approach to water pollution may be required, geared to the efficient utilization of the water resources in an industrialized and densely populated State. The attention of the General Assembly is invited to the possible need for expansion of existing legislation into a water rights code tailored to the needs of the State.)

10. Authorization for the State Water Resources Commission to appoint hearing examiners to conduct public hearings on matters before the Commission relative to pollution or otherwise, and make findings of fact to the Commission for its decisions.

(Comment: The non-salaried Commissioners should not have to take from their daily schedules as many hours as will be required under the proposed program.)

11. Study of the organizational structure of the Water Resources Commission and of the State Health Department in the light of requirements that will be placed upon them by the program proposed by the Task Force.

The Connecticut Clean Water Task Force urges the Governor and the Legislature:

To encourage or authorize (as may be appropriate) the State Water Resources Commission:

12. To develop water quality standards which would satisfy an ultimate objective for all Connecticut water that the quality shall be not less than that suitable for recreation (including bathing), irrigation, agricultural uses and industrial cooling and processing, good fish habitat, good aesthetic value and, where practicable, not less than acceptable for public water supply with filtration, disinfection and other reasonable treatment methods.

In achieving this objective the standards of quality established should be such as to protect the public health and welfare and enhance the quality of water with due regard to the need of water for public water supplies, propagation of fish and wildlife, recreational purposes, agricultural, industrial and other legitimate uses. Furthermore, any plan for implementation and enforcement should give due consideration to the general economic feasibility of complying with such standards and must, of necessity, satisfy due process of law.

(Comment: It is the sense of the Task Force's recommendation that the attainment of the highest degree of water quality consonant not only with the varied uses listed above but also with technological advances in water pollution treatment should be Connecticut's objective. The Task Force further urges that there be periodic review of the standards for the purpose of enhancing water quality.)

13. To develop comprehensive long-range plans for dealing with the problem of improving water quality in the face of an expanding demand for water for public water supply, industry, agriculture, recreation, and propagation of fish and wildlife and to coordinate these plans with other planning activities in the State and in New England.

(Comment: There has been no attempt to measure total future needs in the State and the Region and the diversity of public and private agencies makes planning difficult but, because of this diversity, essential.)

14. To maintain a comprehensive file of sewage and industrial waste discharge to waterways and of potential accidental discharges to waterways, whether treated or untreated, as well as dates and results of periodic inspections, with a summary report to the Governor at least annually, including the reports from the State Health Department.

(Comment: To provide a continuing review of the results to achieve Clean Water.)

15. To expand initially its staff threefold over the present force to provide for periodic inspection of sewage and waste discharges and treatment plants, for classification of waterways, for sampling, and for review and approval of plans for construction of treatment facilities, and for long-range planning.

(Comment: To correct a long-standing deficiency and to implement the Clean Water Program.)

16. To establish realistic salary schedules for professional and technical staff, comparable to those prevailing in the Federal Government and in other states.

(Comment: To attract the quality and quantity of staff required.)

17. To adopt a training program for engineers and technicians in nearby institutions.

(Comment: To maintain a high caliber staff after it is acquired.)

18. To budget appropriate funds for research and necessary consulting services.

(Comment: To provide resources for the required studies and flexibility in proceeding with the task.)

To encourage or authorize (as may be appropriate) the State Health Department:

19. To expand its program of Regional Health Centers to provide assistance to local health directors and planning and zoning officials.

(Comment: It is expected that these facilities will also be available to personnel of the State Water Resources Commission.)

20. To maintain a comprehensive file of community sewage discharges to waterways, both treated and untreated, and of the dates and results of periodic inspections, with a summary report to the State Water Resources Commission at least annually.

21. To expand training programs for sanitary engineers at qualified institutions.

22. To budget as appropriate, in the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, for the increased activities involved in this program.

The Connecticut Clean Water Task Force recommends to Connecticut Members of Congress:

23. Support for proposals for a six-year, \$6 billion Federal program of grants for sewage treatment plants as provided by S. 2947 with the additional funds to be allocated to the states on a population basis and with all project ceilings for grants to be eliminated when the State matches the Federal grant and each pays a full 30 percent. We urge that provision be made for the Federal grant to be paid directly to the State for any prefunded payment by the State.

(Comment: To meet the actual needs if the Federal Government is going to make a substantial contribution to the pollution control problem.)

24. Support for proposals for Federal corporate income tax changes to authorize three-year write-off of the cost of constructing or installing equipment for the treatment of industrial wastes, this write-off to include construction or installation commenced or completed during 1966.

25. That Federal funds be made available for industrial relocation within the State when this is the most practicable remedy for water pollution.

26. Support for enactment of the program proposed by Senator Ribicoff to establish the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area (S. 2460).

The Connecticut Clean Water Task Force urges the Governor and the Legislature:

27. To take steps with appropriate states to include Connecticut River in the Federal Program under Title I of The Clean River Restoration Act of 1966 (S. 2987).

(Comment: To join with adjacent states in seeking a solution to a common problem.)

The Connecticut Clean Water Task Force urges:

28. Water Using Industries to make a real effort to understand the need for state-wide pollution control, to employ such engineering assistance as it may require, to use the advisory services of the State Water Resources Commission and to install and operate such waste treatment facilities as are necessary.

29. Connecticut municipal officials and voters to make a real effort to understand the need for state-wide pollution control, to employ such engineering assistance as it may require, to use the advisory services of the State Department of Health and of the State Water Resources Commission and to install and operate such waste treatment facilities as are necessary.

30. That municipalities review carefully the possibilities contained in Chapter 103 of the General Statutes for financing municipal sewerage system components and for cooperating with industry to abate pollution by domestic sewage and by industrial wastes. Municipalities making agreement to treat industrial wastes should reserve the right of supervision of installation and operation of any pre-treatment at the factory necessary for protection of sewers, treatment plants and appurtenances.

31. That municipalities establish or revise zoning ordinances that will protect adequately private and public water supplies and domestic sewage disposal.

32. The State Highway Department and all municipal street and highway departments to use great care in handling and controlling road oils, tars, road sand, road salt and chemicals mixed with salt to facilitate storing.

STATEMENT OF HON. THOMAS J. DODD, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Senator DODD. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to appear before your subcommittee today to urge prompt approval of S. 2460, the bill to authorize the establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area.

My distinguished colleague, Senator Ribicoff, has the support of the people of four New England States in introducing this measure. I have joined as a cosponsor of S. 2460 because I am enthusiastically interested in seeing such a park and recreation area established. I pledge my support and continued efforts on behalf of this exciting project.

Secretary Udall is to be congratulated for his interest in President Johnson's earlier request for a study of this area, and we appreciate his taking the time to come up here today to comment on this specific bill.

While I, of course, would be delighted to see a Connecticut River Valley Park established as quickly as possible, I do understand and appreciate the position of the Interior Department that an extensive study should be made before taking definitive action.

For this reason, I would certainly expect to go along with the Department's recommendations on this and to support the study which would be authorized by an amended bill.

However, I do hope that such a study might be completed in less time than the 2 years suggested by the Department.

We in Connecticut have no national park area in the entire State. Precisely because Connecticut and all New England is such a populous and highly industrialized area, it is all the more important that we anticipate the needs of the future and act now to protect and preserve as much of the remaining natural lands as possible.

None of us here today would contend that this project is without problems and difficulties. I believe, however, that with conscientious efforts a fair and reasonable solution can be achieved so that the people of the four States sharing the Connecticut River Valley may all enjoy the beauties and benefits of the proposed parkway and recreation area.

Once more, I would like to express my strong support for this legislation and urge favorable action by the committee as soon as possible.

STATEMENT OF HON. LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Senator SALTONSTALL. Mr. Chairman, I am glad to have this opportunity to express my support for S. 2460, a bill which would, if amended as recommended by the Department of Interior, authorize a study to examine the feasibility of establishing a Connecticut River National Recreation Area.

The Connecticut River, running over 400 miles from just south of the Canadian border to Long Island Sound, is the longest river in New England. After it was first navigated in 1614 it became a principal avenue of commerce, and now, with the pressures of today's expanding population, it offers great possibilities as a scenic and recreational area for all to enjoy. But action should be taken now in order to realize this potential. Industrial development is encroaching on the natural beauties long characteristic of the Connecticut River Valley, and industrial and urban waste has polluted the water in large areas. Portions of the river, however, remain unspoiled and should be preserved. A national recreation area with provision for scenic parkways, facilities for hiking, bicycling, picnicking, fishing, boating, camping, and so forth, could furnish much enjoyment to the burgeoning populace of the Northeast.

Last fall, at a meeting of the New England Governors, a resolution in favor of "the study of measures to preserve the priceless natural assets and use of the Connecticut River" was adopted because the six Governors felt that the area represented "a public national resource of unsurpassed natural beauty and historic heritage." Secretary Udall, after making a short tour of the river, proclaimed that its potential for conservation and recreation was "greater than almost any other river in the Nation." And President Johnson, in his February 23 message to the Congress on preserving our natural heritage, recommended the Connecticut River specifically for study as a national recreation area.

A study of the feasibility of a national recreation area in the Connecticut River Valley is a necessary first step toward protecting its unique qualities, and one I fully support. The bill I joined Senator Ribicoff in sponsoring originally, S. 2460, went further in establishing

a national parkway and recreation area once the desirability of such an area had been carefully determined. I am confident that the results of a study such as that recommended by the President and the Department of Interior, however, will lead to the creation of a national park area substantially as set forth in S. 2460.

I think it is clear that we have a great deal to gain through the enactment of legislation to preserve the natural character of parts of the Connecticut River Valley. The drive from New Hampshire, through Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, is a beautiful one, rich in the heritage of New England, conducive to recreational activities of all sorts. I am hopeful that steps can be taken now to begin to preserve this scenic area for the enjoyment of future generations of Americans before it is too late.

Senator BIBLE. We also have a statement of Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts for inclusion in the record.

STATEMENT OF HON. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Senator KENNEDY. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my support for S. 2460, to set up a Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area, a bill which Senator Ribicoff entered and which I was pleased to cosponsor. And I want to make clear that I agree fully with the amendments proposed by the Secretary of the Interior, authorizing a study to determine whether it is feasible and desirable to establish a national recreation area along the Connecticut River and its adjoining lands. The Connecticut River Valley embraces hundreds of miles of beautiful New England countryside, and I commend Senator Ribicoff for introducing legislation to preserve its priceless natural beauty. Identical legislation, H.R. 11278, I might add, has been introduced into the House of Representatives by the distinguished Representative from the Massachusetts' Second Congressional District, the Honorable Edward P. Boland.

On February 23 of this year President Johnson recommended that a study be undertaken of the Connecticut River, to determine the feasibility of creating a national recreation area as part of the overall program to preserve our country's natural heritage. The Secretary of the Interior subsequently suggested that Congress pass legislation authorizing such a study. Under this proposal the Secretary would submit his findings to the President within 2 years after the study was initiated, and the President would in turn submit to Congress what legislation he deemed appropriate.

I agree completely with this plan of action, for action is long overdue to rescue the Connecticut Valley from pollution and blight and to restore it to its former beauty.

The Connecticut, New England's largest river, begins in the Fourth Connecticut Lake in northern New Hampshire. There it retains its natural beauty. But from a wilderness beginning, as it twists and winds through New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut to the sea, the Connecticut's crystal waters turn dirty and gray. As this majestic river flows south through ever more populated land it becomes ever more polluted, with sewage and industrial wastes replacing fish and vegetation. The decay of this great natural resource is well documented by an article from the *Hartford Times*, which Senator Ribicoff has entered into the record. The article describes in detail the price a growing population has paid for its

neglect of the Connecticut River—swimming and fishing wiped out by pollution; camping and boating unpleasant and unhealthy; water and shoreline an eyesore. The river and its surrounding valley have declined hand in hand.

As Senator Ribicoff has pointed out so well, cleaning up the Connecticut won't be easy. One forecast, a very optimistic one, says it will take another 10 years to clean the river to swimming conditions above Holyoke and below East Haddam. The immensity of the task is being increasingly recognized by private citizens and groups, and by local and State officials. The study proposed by the Secretary of the Interior would be a giant step in the cleaning up process.

Early explorers and essayists described the Connecticut River and its valley as among the most beautiful in the world. As anyone who has recently traveled its length can attest, that beauty comes now only in glimpses. But the priceless assets of the Connecticut River Valley can be recaptured, and with them boundless sporting and recreational opportunities if only a strong enough effort is made. I think the time to act is now, and I heartily endorse the legislation which would authorize a study for the consideration of establishing a national recreation area along the Connecticut River Valley.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Congressman St. Onge from Connecticut. You may proceed, Mr. Congressman.

**STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM ST. ONGE, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
FROM THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF CON-
NECTICUT**

Mr. ST. ONGE. I am William St. Onge, from the Second District of Connecticut.

Senator, at the very outset, I would like to endorse very heartily Senator Ribicoff's invitation to the Senators from the States of Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming to take this trip that the Secretary of the Interior took last fall. I would hope that the weather on the occasion of your visit would be much better. I am very happy to see that the Secretary has kept his enthusiasm in spite of the fact that it rained very hard all day long. It was a 1-day trip, but the Secretary came back still very enthusiastic.

Senator SIMPSON. It takes more than rain to dampen his ardor.

Mr. ST. ONGE. I am sure that is right, Senator Simpson.

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the committee, I want to thank you for this opportunity to present my views on the bill now under consideration before your committee which seeks to preserve the natural beauty and the historic heritage of the Connecticut River. As sponsor of the companion measure in the House of Representatives, I wish to express my deep gratitude to all of you for scheduling these hearings.

In the latter weeks of the 1965 session, Senator Ribicoff introduced his bill, S. 2460, in the Senate and I introduced the companion measure, H.R. 11091, in the House. The purpose of the legislation was to authorize the establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area in the four States through which the river flows: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire.

The Connecticut River is the longest in New England, extending from the Canadian border down to Long Island Sound for a distance

of over 400 miles. It passes through many towns and cities, through hills and valleys, woods and farmlands—most of it beautiful country and of great historic value associated with glorious events in our Nation's past.

In recent decades, however, the onslaught of modern industry has been taking a heavy toll of the scenic beauty and the natural resources of this area. Deep inroads have been made in many parts of the Connecticut River Valley. Industrial pollution, ugly junkyards, and the uprooting of wooded areas are gradually transforming the scenery. Some years ago one observer referred to the Connecticut River as "the world's most beautifully landscaped cesspool" because of the sewage, the waste, and the industrial residues pouring into it.

On September 13, 1965, Senator Ribicoff arranged a boat trip along the Connecticut River to inspect the river and its shorelines with the idea of seeing the beauty of this area and the urgent need for preserving its scenic beauty. Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, Gov. John Dempsey, of Connecticut, Senator Ribicoff, and I, as well as many State and local officials, participated in the tour.

There is definitely a great deal of local interest in this project, and I am very happy that you have recognized that while the Secretary of the Interior probably has legal authority to proceed on his own to make this study, the authorization from Congress will show that Congress, too, is interested in this study.

Senator SIMPSON. Congressman, I want to ask a question right there. Congress might make a recommendation quickly, but it is conceivable that we may have to wait for quite a while, even beyond this session of Congress, to get this bill through. We do not know. Someone could get obtuse and perverse about it. That happens. That is why I was hoping for this study on the basis of the authority already granted.

Do you concur with Senator Ribicoff and the Secretary of the Interior that the amendments of the Interior Department are well taken and should be subscribed to?

Mr. ST. ONGE. Very definitely, as my statement indicates in just a moment. I subsequently introduced a second bill incorporating the Secretary's recommendations.

Senator SIMPSON. That is the one that will probably pass.

Senator BIBLE. Might I ask a question at that point, Mr. Congressman? What is the status of that bill? Have you had hearings on the House side?

Mr. ST. ONGE. No. There have been no hearings. The last time I talked to Congressman Aspinall he was still waiting for the report from the Secretary which he had not received. We are hoping that the House will concur very quickly in holding hearings so that there can be concurrent action in both Houses.

Senator BIBLE. Yes. The departmental report came up on April 22, which is roughly a month ago. I would urge you to have as early a hearing over there as you could.

Mr. ST. ONGE. You may rest assured that we shall take it up with the chairman of the House committee.

All of us were very much impressed with what we saw and with the possibilities of preserving this beautiful waterway, the rich valley through which it flows, and the future of the many cities, towns, and villages along its way. It was generally felt by all that much can

still be saved and preserved, provided we take action now or within the coming few years; if we wait too much longer, it may be too late to save anything.

What needs to be done is to have the river cleaned up, and Connecticut is going to do its share, let me assure you of that. Its numerous coves and nearby wooded hills should be preserved, and the immediate vicinity along the banks of the river should be developed as a national park and recreational area for the use and enjoyment of the people. Unfortunately, we do not have many national parks and recreational areas in the eastern part of our country. The Connecticut River Valley is one area that still can be preserved for such purposes, if we do not wait too long. Its value as a recreational asset for the people is inestimable. I am sure I need not emphasize too much for this committee the need for park and recreational areas, which is bound to become greater in the future as our population increases. It would be a wise step for us, I am certain, to take the necessary precautions now to preserve as much of these assets as possible.

In the 19th century, Timothy Dwight, president of Yale University, wrote that the Connecticut River was "Everywhere pure, potable, everywhere salubrious." In the last 50 years, however, swimming in the river has been considered unwise because of the industrial residues and waste. As we completed our boat trip last September, which extended over a distance of some 80 miles from Old Saybrook, at the mouth of the river, to Hartford, Senator Ribicoff observed:

The river is, for the most part, still a thing of beauty. But unless we act very soon, it will not be a "joy forever."

And Secretary Udall added this comment:

We have a chance here to do a model job of conservation. You already have a running start. But population is crowding in and time is running out. What we do in the next decade will be decisive for the river's future.

On February 23 of this year, President Johnson submitted to Congress his message on conservation and the preservation of our natural heritage. Among the major outdoor recreation proposals which he recommended were the following:

For a region which now has no national park, I recommend the study of a Connecticut River National Recreation Area along New England's largest river, in the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Subsequently, the Department of Interior submitted its report on the bills which Senator Ribicoff and I had introduced. It contained several interesting observations and suggested amendments. Let me quote one passage from the report which was addressed to Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall, chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs:

We are sympathetic with the preservation and recreational use objectives of the bills which are greatly in need of accomplishment near urban population centers of the United States. At the present time, however, we do not have sufficient information to recommend the establishment of the proposed Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area. We believe that a study should be conducted before bills of this kind are considered . . . the enactment of a bill to establish the area in advance of the study would be premature . . . we believe it would be appropriate, however, to enact a study bill as an expression of Congressional interest and emphasis.

The subsequent paragraph of the report reiterates that—
we strongly endorse a study for the purpose of examining the feasibility and desirability of establishing a Connecticut River National Recreation Area—
and that statement is followed by several amendments.

In view of the recommendation of the President and the report of the Interior Department that a study is needed before the area can be established as a national park, I decided to revise my bill and to incorporate the amendments suggested by the Department. On April 20, 1966, I introduced H.R. 14546 which, as now worded, is a study measure. It is now pending before the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. Senator Ribicoff likewise introduced a similar bill.

The new bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a study of the feasibility of establishing the area as a national park, in order to preserve its natural beauty, its historic heritage, and its recreational use for the public. It provides for the coordination of plans with other Federal and State programs, as well as consultation with local bodies and officials. The Secretary is to submit, within 2 years, a report to the President of his findings and recommendations with emphasis on the following:

1. The natural values and recreational uses of the area.
2. Potential uses of the water and land resources.
3. The type of Federal program needed to preserve the values of the area in the public interest.

Under the circumstances, I believe that this is the best approach and the most logical way to obtain action leading to the eventual creation of a Connecticut River National Recreation Area. When adopted, the new measure will actually help lay the groundwork for the project. Such a study has never been made, and it would, therefore, be most helpful in many ways, including the establishment of the exact delineation of the proposed recreational area, its conservation and preservation, its economical potential, and other important aspects.

Mr. Chairman, I urge you and the members of your committee to approve the authorization of the proposed feasibility study so that Congress, too, can go on record in support of the idea. We would then have unanimity on all three major Federal levels: the White House, the Interior Department, and Congress. This will enable us to proceed without any loss of valuable time.

Senator BIBLE. A very, very fine statement, Congressman St. Onge. I certainly do appreciate it. I think that you have covered it very well.

The Senator from Utah.

Senator MOSS. I do not have any questions, Mr. Chairman. I do congratulate you, Congressman, on a very fine statement which parallels that of Senator Ribicoff. Obviously you are strongly supporting this measure and I assure you of our desire to move along with it quickly.

Mr. ST. ONGE. Thank you very much, Senator.

Senator BIBLE. The Senator from Wyoming.

Senator SIMPSON. Thank you for a fine statement.

Mr. ST. ONGE. Thank you very much, Senator.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you, Mr. Congressman.

Mr. ST. ONGE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. I have a statement here from Congressman Boland that will be included at this point as if read.

STATEMENT OF HON. EDWARD P. BOLAND, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. BOLAND. Mr. Chairman, I want to take this opportunity to thank you and members of this distinguished committee for giving me this opportunity to make my views known on a piece of legislation that affects my Second Congressional District in Massachusetts, that is very close to my heart and that I sponsored in the House of Representatives.

That is the bill to authorize the establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire. The bill before you is S. 2460, sponsored by Senator Abraham Ribicoff, of Connecticut, and cosponsored by my colleague from Massachusetts, Senator Edward M. Kennedy. A similar bill sponsored by me, H.R. 11278, is now pending before the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Since we introduced our bills in the last session of the Congress, President Johnson recommended on February 23 that a study be undertaken of the Connecticut River, to determine the feasibility of creating a national recreation area as part of the overall program to preserve our country's natural heritage. Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall has urged Congress to pass legislation authorizing this study.

I agree that a study should be conducted by the National Park Service so that sufficient information can be gathered to firm up solid recommendations for the establishment of our proposed Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area. Such a survey and study would encompass a determination of the most appropriate portions of the beautiful Connecticut River Valley that may feasibly be included in the national parkway and recreation area.

The Connecticut is the longest river in New England and cuts through hundreds of miles of beautiful countryside. From the spillway of the First Connecticut Lake in New Hampshire, the river plunges enthusiastically into an approximately 400-mile journey through the heart of New England to Long Island Sound at Old Saybrook, Conn., touching in its course the lives of many hundreds of thousands of people who work, or study, or play along its banks. It outstretches dozens of rivers which are more famous and more sung about. It is longer by far than the Jordan, the Tiber, the Thames, the Suwanee, the Hudson, and the Potomac.

The Connecticut River, it is agreed by travelers with an eye for beauty, flows through one of the most scenic valleys in the world. In fact, Timothy Dwight, for more than 20 years the president of Yale, who became the most traveled New Englander of this day, wrote in 1837:

This stream may perhaps with more propriety than any other in the world be named the beautiful river. From Stuart to the Sound it uniformly maintains this character. The purity, salubrity, and sweetness of its waters; the frequency and elegance of its meanders; its absolute freedom from all aquatic vegetables; the uncommon and universal beauty of its banks, here a smooth and winding beach,

there covered with green verdure now fringed with bushes covered with lofty trees, and now formed by the intruding hill and rude bluff and the shaggy mountain . . . are objects which no traveler can thoroughly describe.

There is a marked contrast between the above description of peace and beauty by Timothy Dwight and the present story of awesome destruction brought about by man's own ingenuity.

Today, the Connecticut River flows through unsightly industrial developments, past ancient factories and junkyards, oil tank farms, and powerplants. The river valley, like so many other beautiful parts of our United States, is slowly but surely being eaten away. The land developers are moving in; carving out great chunks of landscape. We are witnessing an unplanned, leapfrogging sprawl of industrial and commercial development and its inevitable handmaiden—water pollution. One recent observer called the Connecticut River the world's most beautifully landscaped cesspool.

Tremendous pressures are building up. New highways and bridges are providing more access to the unspoiled land along the river and there is going to be much more intensive use of the river itself. The flotilla of boats one sees on the river is only a foretaste of what is to come. With the explosive growth in recreational boating that is ahead, the river is going to become a great recreational highway, and there will be a rash of commercial facilities and camps along the banks to serve it.

Highway transport, railroads and planes have replaced the slower river boats of yesteryear. Our people have become more mobile and as our population crowds together in ever-increasing metropolitan areas, the need for additional park and recreation space grows. There are questions we must now ask ourselves. Will we confine our children and grandchildren to a life to be spent in an asphalt playground surrounded by neon lights? Do we really want a society bounded by concrete highways and filled to the horizon with a miscellany of an industrial civilization?

Man does need the cities, but he also needs breathing space—the view of a majestic river and of open skies. Man needs all these things and we today must do our part to provide them.

The Connecticut River and its valley are priceless assets. They have been placed in this generation's care. We must preserve what we have before it is too late. The destruction of priceless resources is irrevocable; once lost they remain lost forever.

For these reasons, I join with my colleagues from New England in the Senate and urge the authorization of a study of the Connecticut River and adjacent lands, from its source to its mouth, in order to determine the most appropriate portions that may feasibly be included in the national parkway and recreation area.

Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is Joseph Gill, commissioner of natural resources. Commissioner Gill, we are very happy to have you here this morning.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH N. GILL, COMMISSIONER, CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MR. GILL. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, with your permission, sir, I would like to read this statement for Governor Dempsey who was unable to be with us today.

Senator BIBLE. Very well.

Mr. GILL. This statement was prepared by the Governor:

I wish very much that today's hearings of your honorable subcommittee could have been held in the little village of Haddam, Conn., where there is situated a 144-acre State park known as Gillette Castle.

It would be a great pleasure for me to escort each member of this subcommittee to the lookout atop Gillette Castle, once the home of the late renowned actor, William Gillette.

Looking southward from that vantage point, you would see the whole panorama of the lower Connecticut River Valley.

You would know why William Gillette chose this comparatively isolated section of Connecticut as the site on which to build his fantastic "castle" home.

You would know why experienced travelers say that the most scenic rivers of Europe are no more beautiful than the Connecticut.

And you would know why I am so strongly in favor of the establishment of the Connecticut River National Recreation Area.

The Connecticut River Watershed Council, in a guide published only this year, has this to say about the river which extends for 410 miles from the Canadian border to Long Island Sound:

The river in its isolated stretches, whether turbulent or quiet, offers one of the finest means of enjoying nature that is available to us. How welcome the change from the strains and stresses of present day living is the quietude found in the secluded area hidden from the bustle of civilization.

We need to see the tall trees, the wild flowers, the foliage in its spring and fall color. We need to see the majestic wild goose in its flight, to hear the call of the loon and the hoot of the owl at night.

We need to realize how vital it is to absorb these simple pleasures and to remember that unless we treasure and zealously preserve them, they will soon disappear from us forever.

They are, as the watershed council says "simple pleasures"—simple, but priceless—and I most urgently direct your attention to the council's plea and warning: "Unless we treasure and zealously preserve them, they will soon disappear from us forever."

A need for immediate action is sounded also in the comment of the noted conservationist, William H. Whyte, who calls the Connecticut River "the most underexploited resource potential in the East" and says that "at the moment" it remains relatively unspoiled.

I put stress on Mr. Whyte's phrase, "at the moment."

It took 300 years for Connecticut's population to reach 2½ million, but all estimates indicate that within 35 years it will be 5 million.

If we are to save our natural resources, the time is now.

We can't wait until tomorrow.

It must not be assumed that nothing has been, or is being, done to save the Connecticut River.

Last June, the Connecticut comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan was completed, fulfilling requirements of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation for participation in the land and water conservation fund. This report shows that Connecticut's central lowland, essentially coterminous with the Connecticut River Valley, is the most suitable part of the State for intensive recreation development.

The Connecticut interregional planning program, a cooperative effort among a number of State agencies and local and regional planning agencies, is conducting a study, the preliminary findings of

which stress the importance of the Connecticut River Valley for its recreational potential.

I have asked the Federal Pollution Control Administration to make the Connecticut River Basin the site of a clean river demonstration project, and have received assurance that every consideration will be given to my request should the Clean Rivers Restoration Act of 1966 become law.

Finally, on this very day I am receiving from the Connecticut Clean Water Task Force an action program for presentation to the next session of our legislature for the abatement and control of pollution throughout the entire State.

This plan, the product of months of dedicated work on the part of the 100 citizens whom I appointed to the task force last fall, calls for a \$150 million bond issue to do the job.

If this program is approved, as I am confident it will be, and if our sister States to the north and Federal agencies cooperate, we will have a clean Connecticut River, highly suitable for all recreational purposes.

Certainly, there can be no better way to keep it clean and to make its vast recreational potential permanently available to the thousands upon thousands of persons eager to take advantage of it than to establish a Connecticut River national recreation area as Senator Ribicoff has proposed.

The various studies of the Connecticut River, now in progress or completed, in no way obviate the need for a specific study concerned with a national parkway and recreation area.

They will, however, greatly aid such a study because of the work that already has been done and the extensive data already compiled.

You may be sure of the full cooperation of the State of Connecticut in such a study.

The people of the populous East should not have to travel thousands of miles, to the far West, to visit a national park.

Let us put parks where the people are.

A Connecticut River national parkway and recreation area will be a priceless asset for the millions of people residing in the Northeast. More than that, I am confident that it will bring to our area more millions, from all over America.

I urge your honorable subcommittee to support the proposal on which Senator Ribicoff has worked so hard and so long.

I regret that it was impossible for me to present this appeal to you in person. However, Commissioner Joseph N. Gill of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, whom I have designated to represent me, is prepared to answer any questions you may have as to how Connecticut views this proposal and the manner in which we are prepared to cooperate.

Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Gill. Express to the Governor our regrets that he cannot be here personally. But this does indicate his tremendous interest and support.

I am not clear as to whether he supports the study concept as well as the original proposal introduced by Senator Ribicoff.

Mr. GILL. Yes, Mr. Chairman. Governor Dempsey does support the concept of the need for a study before any formal action is taken on creation of a national recreation area.

Senator BIBLE. I want to have the record clear on that. Can you give me an idea of the ownership pattern along the Connecticut River in Connecticut?

Mr. GILL. Yes, sir. To a certain extent, and in general terms.

Senator BIBLE. Just generally. Of course, the study will bring this out.

Mr. GILL. The State of Connecticut itself owns 7 miles of the 67 miles of the river in the State of Connecticut.

Senator BIBLE. What do you do with the 7 miles that you own?

Mr. GILL. Those are in State parks, like the Gillette Castle, Hurd State Park, and so forth. The other land use is principally in agriculture and private estates, industrial locations in the concentrated area, State forests.

Senator BIBLE. Would you have any idea how many miles there are in State forests along the Connecticut River in Connecticut?

Mr. GILL. All of the land along the river, Senator, is in State parks. The State forests are those areas which provide the esthetic backdrop along the ridge tops along the river.

Senator BIBLE. Seven miles, then, if I understand you correctly along the Connecticut River are in Connecticut State parks?

Mr. GILL. Yes, sir.

Senator BIBLE. I would like to have you talk this over with the Governor of your State, likewise with the sponsors of the bill. In creating these recreation areas throughout the United States we constantly run into problems where you have a State park within a proposed national area, whether it is a recreation area or national park or seashore area or lakeshore area.

It has always been my personal philosophy that if the U.S. Government is going to develop a national recreation area, that the State should donate—and I use the word “donate” advisedly—whatever it has that is a part and parcel within this area and make it a part of the overall recreation area rather than to have two managements managing the same general areas. There are plenty of examples of this. There is one in Utah, in Canyonlands.

Of all the States, I always take my hat off to North Carolina because at Cape Hatteras they purchased and donated the land to make possible the Cape Hatteras National Seashore which is first of all the seashores. They did the same thing at Cape Lookout. In other words, they had a strong active participation in the overall objective, and I would like to have you consider that. I do not think it should be answered right now, but I suggest it to you. You can look at examples throughout our entire national park system and see what I am trying to explain.

At Indiana Dunes, for example, which has caused us no end of trouble, there is a State park right in the middle of the proposed national lakeshore. I have always felt that if Indiana thought it was so wonderful to have the National Government come in and take the responsibility dollarwise and otherwise of the Indiana Dunes, they ought to put the Indiana State park in the area. So far we have not prevailed. I hope ultimately we will. I cannot see two overlapping managements in a recreation area of this kind.

I just wanted to give you my rather random thoughts on this subject so that you can be considering them. You are going to have some time for this study.

Mr. GILL. Could I answer your question, Senator, in general terms? Senator BIBLE. Certainly. But there is no requirement for you to do so.

Mr. GILL. In 1959 when Senator Ribicoff was Governor of the State of Connecticut, he proposed to consolidate all the agencies in the Connecticut State government that were concerned with natural resources. It was successfully passed by the general assembly. Today we have in our department the Department of Agriculture, the Park and Forest Commission, Fish and Game Commission, Water Resources Commission, so that individual agencies of the State Government do not put on administrative blinders and go down the narrow road of their particular interest.

It has been very successful in the 7 years that we have been in existence. We try to take the broad view of what is good for the people of Connecticut.

Now, in line with your suggestion as to one ownership or a unified approach to these public lands, I cannot speak for the Governor.

Senator BIBLE. I understand. I did not expect you to.

Mr. GILL. But I can tell you in general terms that there certainly must be a full partnership. Our only goal is to serve the people. The best administration is to have one agency that can perform a particular function.

Senator BIBLE. This problem has been recurring, particularly in the last 2 or 3 years, in seashores, park areas, and national recreation areas that we have created. We find it everywhere in the United States. Sometimes we have difficulty.

The Senator from Utah.

Senator MOSS. I really have no questions. I think the Governor's statement is excellent and you have answered the questions very well.

Mr. GILL. Thank you.

Senator BIBLE. We appreciate your being here this morning, Mr. Gill.

Our next witness is Mr. Julian Rosenberg, president, Connecticut Valley Action Council.

STATEMENT OF JULIAN ROSENBERG, PRESIDENT, CONNECTICUT VALLEY ACTION COUNCIL

Mr. ROSENBERG. Senator Bible, Senator Moss, Senator Ribicoff, we are very grateful for your invitation to us to speak. I shall try to "bowdlerize" or "Reader's Digestize" this statement.

Convac is the Connecticut Valley Action Committee, Inc.—we are nicknamed Convac.

Senator BIBLE. I see you are following the national pattern.

Mr. ROSENBERG. Well, we are not Univac yet.

Senator BIBLE. I notice the close similarity.

Mr. ROSENBERG. I guess so. It is alphabet soup wherever you go. Convac supports this bill without reservation. We regard it as the minimum required to deal with the ever increasing inroads of heedless industrialism and crass boosterism, at times, upon one of the most beautiful river valleys in America.

Convac is a nonstock, nonprofit Connecticut corporation which was spontaneously formed in 1964 by embattled residents and friends of the Connecticut River Valley in order to preserve its scenic beauties,

its historical sites, and to restore the original water quality of this now badly polluted river where salmon once abounded. We speak for more than 14,000 champions of this valley.

There need be no extended demonstration of the unique and priceless beauty which this historic river miraculously still retains despite the ravages of thoughtless exploitation alas by municipalities and industry alike. In law there is the doctrine known as "*Res Ipsa Loquitur*"; that is the thing speaks for itself. Respecting the Connecticut River, we proclaim "*Fluvius ipse loquitur*," the river speaks for itself.

Then I am going to skip—there is no reason for going into paeans of praise about the river because there does not seem to be any controversy about it, so I shall skip to the top of page 2.

We used the word "miraculously," for it is nothing short of a miracle that as much beauty as there is still remains in the valley. This is hardly to be attributed to man's design, but to inadvertance. The industrialists and the developers simply have not gotten there yet. But little time is left. For those of you not familiar with the area and the geography, from Middletown the river abruptly turns and alters course, turns southwest, and cuts its way through hills and highlands forming the exquisite Narrows in its final search for the sea.

The advance of industry southward from Middletown is proceeding with the inevitability of a glacier coming down into a valley. Already we have seen the construction in the Narrows of the huge fossil fuel generating plant of Helco, Hartford Electric Light Co., with its series of smoking chimneys. Recently it has been doubled in capacity. Then followed the Canel Atomic Laboratory spoiling the view from Middle Haddam, a town famed for its beauty and its fine old houses. Canel has shut down but the plant is being purchased by United Aircraft Co. Finally, instead of establishing itself in the area already occupied by industry, Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Co. elected to build its huge 500,000 kilowatt atomic plant 7 or 8 miles downstream at Haddam Neck, disfiguring the new reach of the river with its gigantic milk can reactor container and the warehouselike turbine house, all of gargantuan proportions.

I again shall skip.

How is it that these assaults against beautiful scenic areas succeed so well? The laws to which the conservationists can appeal are haphazard and have never been coordinated in a way that makes any good sense. For example, the Hudson at Storm King has just received a reprieve by a judicial construction that the words "recreational purposes" extend to maintenance of natural beauty and must be given weight when the Federal Power Commission undertakes to grant a construction license.

Certiorari was denied by the Supreme Court, as you all are aware, at the beginning of this week. But for this small legal peg on which to hang a hat, nothing could have been done by conservationists along the Hudson.

But here is another angle. The Federal Power Commission has jurisdiction under the Federal Power Act which incorporated the magic words "recreational purposes" only over hydroelectric plants. Had anyone sought to build a coal-fired plant at this same location, there would have been no place to appeal.

Now, when Connecticut Yankee, which by the way consists of the 11 large power companies of New England, started to advance through our valley, it easily obtained provisional approval, and a construction license from the AEC. The AEC under the law need give no thought to esthetics and natural beauty. It could well license the construction of an atomic plant adjoining Mount Vernon or Monticello or in Yosemite Park, were the latter not a national park. All it had to do was to give us the bland assurance that such a plant could be built without undue risk to the people dwelling around the perimeter. This it did in 1964.

What about local zoning authorities in Haddam? Haddam has a grand list of some \$12 million (50 percent of valuation). The new plant will cost \$1 million and should be assessed for some \$50 million eventually. You can guess what the town fathers did in advance. And even had they said no, the law of Connecticut provided for an appeal to the public utilities commission so that the planners would have been wasting their time. The process was perfectly described by Commissioner Bennett of the California Public Utility Commission at page 377 of the report of the proceedings at the White House Conference on Natural Beauty held May 24-25, 1965:

When you go to a given community, small in size, you can find a local planning commission, not skilled in the requirements of planning and a local community intent upon tax revenue from the utility facilities. It occurs to me that this power of eminent domain must be modified. We must view these projects now, since we are such a complex society, as being beyond the province of one local planning commission.

I will skip the rest of that quote.

At this very moment, Convac is fighting the Hartford Electric Light Co. (Helco) before our State water resources commission to block its application to build sprawling steel towers, 6 in all, up to 21 feet in height and stretch 15 additional cables across the Connecticut River in the heart of the State park area over which Commissioner Gill's department presides. By happenstance those who drafted the act under which the water resource commission acts, borrowed the words "recreational uses and purposes" from the Federal Power Act. There we have the magic words and we are using it as a peg on which to hang our conservationist hat. But this commission has limited jurisdiction. It can act only when there is an encroachment over the river. Above high water mark, it has almost no jurisdiction. But with respect to wires crossing the river and work incidental thereto it has jurisdiction. Here we were just lucky as were the Hudson River conservationists. We cannot bet on that in most cases.

Convac has also joined the fight against the monster bridge which some real estate developers out on Long Island want to build across the sound from Northport, Long Island to Old Saybrook. A newspaper poll in the lower valley showed that the people were opposed to this project 4 to 1 and 6 to 1 in Old Saybrook itself. This bridge would destroy the beauty of the estuary and the river mouth, a celebrated piece of blue water to gladden the hearts of yachtsmen. It would be more like a trestle than a bridge.

This bill with its modifications and amendments, S. 2460, should be made a law. This beautiful river valley, midway between New York and Boston, must be saved for posterity. With the projected growth

of population, we must look forward to a giant megalopolis, an urban sprawl from Richmond to Boston. We need this open space for not all of us can get away so as to visit Glacier Park or Yellowstone, or the magnificent parks in your State, Senator Bible, or your State, Senator Moss. We are a constricted, old, little State.

This area would be to the northeast metropolis no more than what Central Park has been to New York City before the automobile. Representative Ottinger stated the case perfectly at page 333 of the report of the White House Conference:

In the past we have tended to concentrate our conservation efforts on the wilderness. We have made significant strides in preserving the glories of our underdeveloped lands. Now we must turn our faces to conservation in our settled areas.

And President Johnson said:

A growing population is swallowing up areas of natural beauty * * *.

This is an infinitely more difficult problem with which to cope. Everyone could agree with saving Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Parks. There were few economic interests involved and very little conflict. New conservation involves economic conflicts which go to the very heart of our modern society and the pressures will be tremendous.

The President also said:

The same society which receives the rewards of technology, must, as a cooperating whole, take responsibility for control.

I believe that he has recognized that our existing government structure is not geared for this battle, and that we will need to create a new mechanism.

I come now to my conclusion, which I am sure will be gratefully received as a final conclusion.

Senator BIBLE. This is a very fine statement. I am enjoying every word.

Mr. ROSENBERG. Thank you, but I don't want to trespass on your valuable time.

This bill is a splendid effort to come to grips with this problem. The unspoiled reaches of the Connecticut River must not be permitted to become an urban river. We recognize the complexity of the problem and the perennial need for a study to reach a balance between competing values. The proposed study should fill this need. There are many new tools and devices at hand to regulate land uses. There are scenic easements, historic and scenic zoning, scenic parkways, tax incentives, land acquisition among others. All these must be studied. Practical solutions must be arrived at, for the hour is late. We must act now. If we wait, irreparable damage will ensue. This bill must be passed without delay. We of Convac believe that it fairly cries out for enactment. A sign must be hung up. Do not trespass. Public property. We mean our valley. We love it, we want to see it defended by all legitimate means.

I thank you.

Senator BIBLE. That is a very fine statement, Mr. Rosenberg.

One question. You say Convac represents 14,000 champions of the valley. Now, this is the membership of this nonstock, nonprofit Connecticut corporation; is that correct?

Mr. ROSENBERG. Some of this representation is direct. Some pertains to other organizations which have joined us and are affiliated. For instance, the League of Connecticut Women, the River Road Association, and other clubs and organizations. So these are represented. We have incorporated those. Now, for instance, on pollution, we represent more than 14,000. On the issue of pollution the Humane Society of Connecticut—the executive director is Admiral Shaw—is with us on that. They have joined us only on pollution because of its effect on fish and aquatic life. When I say 14,000, I include the collective memberships as well as individual memberships. I do not want to deceive this committee.

Senator BIBLE. I understand. And of this group that belongs to Convac, how many actually live along the Connecticut River in Connecticut?

Mr. ROSENBERG. I would say a great many because the Connecticut River is the heart of our State. For instance, I live at Haddam. I look over a view personally, which I do not want to be chauvinistic about, but I think it is as fine as Gillette Castle. We find a great deal of support, if you look at the numbers of our membership there, up and down the valley, particularly from Middletown to Old Saybrook area, which is the beautiful area visited on that memorable sail last September with the inclement weather conditions which Senator Ribicoff recalls so well.

I think most of our people who are lovers of the Connecticut Valley really live in the bounds of Connecticut and they know the Connecticut. I do not have a breakdown. There may be here or there somebody living up at Hartford, but Hartford is on the river, and there may be some living a little away, but they all know it. The river is the heart of our State. It gave the State its name.

Senator BIBLE. I understand. You make a colorful witness. The only purpose of my question was to find out how many people who belong to Convac are people who live along the river.

Mr. ROSENBERG. I would say most of them and I think I am not pulling a long bow, if I may say so. I am not under oath, but I still do not want to commit perjury.

Senator BIBLE. That is all right.

Mr. ROSENBERG. Particularly having been sworn in on many occasions in my life—I am sure you have heard this before, it is a common pun—I have sworn on the Bible, but never before a "Bible." We have a gallery of saints—St. Onge and Bible.

Senator BIBLE. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Senator BIBLE. I sensed a little public utility power overtone in your statement.

This will depend on what the studies show, and you have been a very fine witness.

Mr. ROSENBERG. I love the dividends when I receive them.

Senator BIBLE. The Senator from Utah.

Senator MOSS. No questions. You have been an excellent witness indeed. And I enjoyed it.

Senator BIBLE. Are there any further questions?

Senator RIBICOFF. Mr. Rosenberg and his group of people are what comes up in our society every once in a while where people are willing to break a lance for the public weal and take on all comers, no matter

how big or powerful. I have found that up until now I have been able to go along and fight shoulder to shoulder with them on many projects because they are dedicated to preserving the beauty of our State against future encroachments. They are dedicated people who are basically for preserving the Connecticut River and the beauties of our State. I am glad Mr. Rosenberg is here—at his own expense, incidentally—and a few people with him from Connecticut who came down to testify this morning.

Mr. ROSENBERG. That is a most heartening statement, which gives our organization great pride coming from so distinguished a source. Thank you, sir.

Senator BIBLE. You were a wonderful witness, Mr. Rosenberg. I am tempted to stay here and listen to you all day. A very fine statement.

Mr. ROSENBERG. The Bible is a long book, sir.

Senator BIBLE. Our next witness is James Hartnett, a Representative from the Connecticut Legislature. Mr. Hartnett.

STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES J. HARTNETT, A STATE REPRESENTATIVE, FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

Mr. HARTNETT. Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee, I am State Representative James J. Hartnett, of Windsor, Conn., chairman of the Connecticut Legislative Committee for the Study of Dredging of the Connecticut River. Members of the committee, several of whom are here with me, are Senators Alfano, of Suffield, and Carlson, of Killingworth; State Representative Fuller, of Suffield; First Selectman Michael Sartori, of Windsor Locks; and John N. Kane, of Hartford. We are appearing here in support of Senator Ribicoff's feasibility study for creating a national park area along the Connecticut River.

Senator Moss inquired about water transportation in the Connecticut River. The Connecticut River from Long Island Sound to Hartford—a distance of 50 miles—has been dredged so that commercial transportation can come up to Hartford. From Hartford up to Holyoke there is no water use in the summer because of the lowness of the water. This committee was appointed by the State legislature in 1963 because they recognized the need for opening this area for pleasure boat travel. There is a distance of 36 miles between Hartford and Holyoke. I would like to concur in Senator Ribicoff's invitation. If you do come to Connecticut to look over this area, we are hopeful that we will have the river dredged to the point where you will travel the 9 miles to Windsor locks, travel through 6 miles of the canal built in the early 1800's, which would be used for the pleasure boats, and then proceed from there up past Springfield into Holyoke.

As a result of a congressional appropriation, the Army Engineers have completed their survey of the area for dradging and they will very shortly discuss their plans with us and the other State and local authorities. We are hopeful that they will present their results to their Washington headquarters in a very short time.

I might add that the State of Connecticut is interested enough in this project that they now have in their State budget an item of \$125,000 which represents 25 percent of the estimated \$500,000. The Federal Government is putting in 50 percent, and I might add

that we have also cooperated with a similar committee in Massachusetts which is also planning to participate in this. They are very anxious because they are landlocked actually up in Springfield and Holyoke and unable to get down to the waters of Long Island Sound during the complete summer months.

I might add, the people of Connecticut are justifiably proud of the Connecticut River that runs through the center of the State, and feel that it is one of the most beautiful in the country. With the recreational facilities that would be developed by the bill before you many economic benefits would result to the several hundred thousand people who are located in the Connecticut River Basin. We heartily endorse this bill.

There are about 100,000 boats of all kinds in Connecticut, many located in the Connecticut River below Hartford. They certainly could use this additional stretch of water in connection with the opening of this area for recreation. We feel the ability to get there by pleasure boats would certainly add to the use of it.

This river, despite the pollution which exists, has a very large anadromous fish population and with the adjoining land provides an opportunity for most of the forms of outdoor recreation that Connecticut citizens enjoy—walking, driving for pleasure, scenic viewing, camping, swimming, picnicking, boating, fishing, and hunting. This certainly would be improved with the passage of this bill and the study that would be made from it.

I have with me a report of our committee submitted to the Connecticut Legislature in 1965, which may give a little of the history of the Connecticut, much more so than I am able to give today.

Senator BIBLE. We are very happy to have that incorporated as part of the record, Mr. Hartnett.

(The document referred to follows:)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE DREDGING OF THE CONNECTICUT RIVER TO THE 1965 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

AS PROVIDED BY SPECIAL ACT NO. 95 OF THE 1963 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

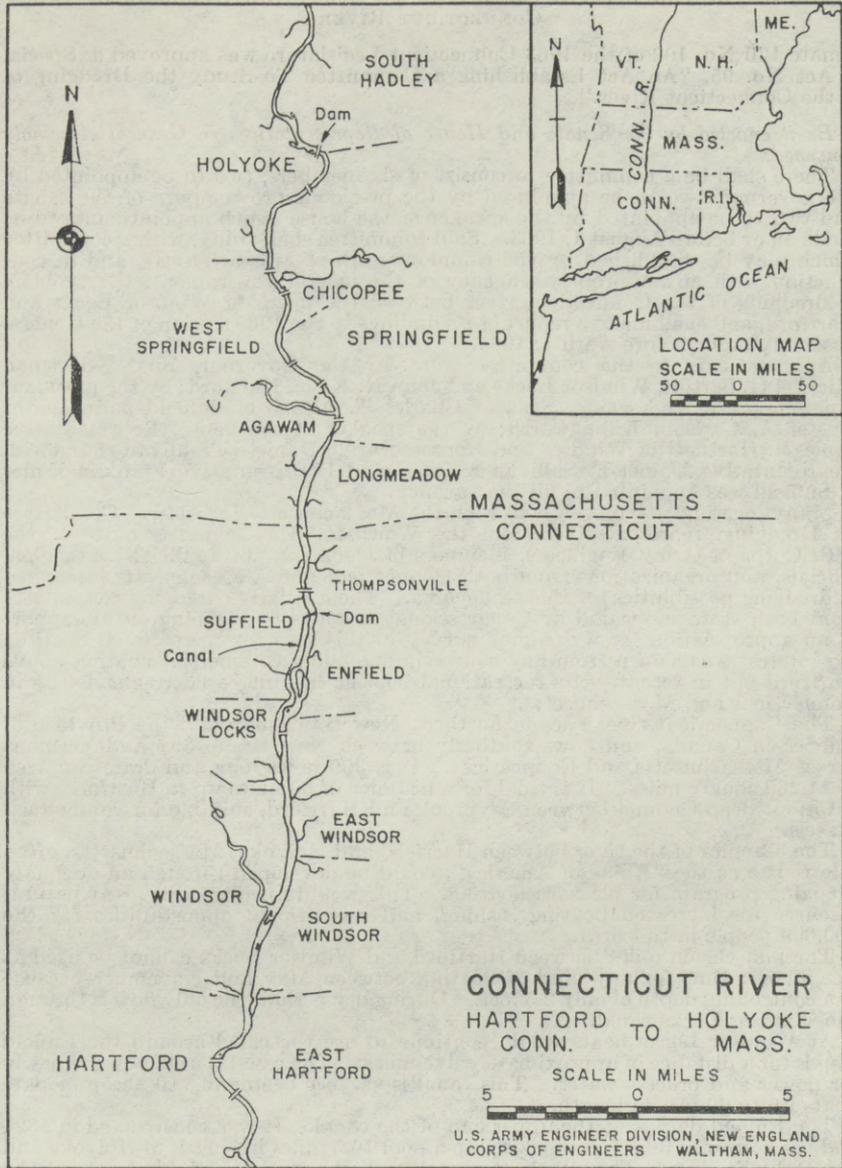
To the Members of the Connecticut General Assembly of 1965:

Pursuant to the provisions of Special Act 95 of Connecticut Special Acts, 1964 General Assembly, we transmit herewith the report of the Committee to Study the Dredging of the Connecticut River.

Representative JAMES J. HARTNETT, Windsor, *Chairman*.
 Senator CHARLES T. ALFANO, Seventh District.
 Senator GUSTAF A. CARLSON, Thirty-fourth District.
 Representative FRANKLIN FULLER, Suffield.
 MICHAEL G. SARTORI, First Selectman, Windsor Locks.
 JOHN N. KANE, Hartford.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

U. S. ARMY



REPORT OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE DREDGING OF THE
CONNECTICUT RIVER

Senate Bill No. 102 of the 1963 Connecticut Legislature was approved as Special Act No. 95, "An Act Establishing a Committee To Study the Dredging of the Connecticut River."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

There shall be a committee to consist of six members, two to be appointed by the governor, two to be appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate and two to be appointed by the speaker of the house—such appointments to be made on or before August 1, 1963. Said committee shall study, with a committee which may be established by the commonwealth of Massachusetts, and in conjunction with any appropriate agency of the federal government, the problem of dredging of the Connecticut river between the towns of Windsor Locks and Hartford, and shall make a report of its findings to the 1965 session of the General Assembly on or before April 1, 1965.

Appointments to the committee were: by the Governor, First Selectman Michael G. Sartori, Windsor Locks and John N. Kane, Hartford; by the president pro tempore of the senate, Senator Charles T. Alfano of Suffield and Senator Gustaf A. Carlson, Killingworth; by the speaker of the house, Representative James J. Hartnett of Windsor and Representative Daniel F. Sullivan of Suffield. Representative Daniel F. Sullivan resigned and Representative Franklin Fuller of Suffield was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Many meetings have been held with the Massachusetts Legislative Committee on Dredging, representatives from the Waltham, Massachusetts office of the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers, members of Congress, state officials, municipal officials, and organizations from both Connecticut and Massachusetts interested in dredging possibilities for this scenic area. The legislative dredging committees from both states appeared at Congressional hearings in Washington in support of an appropriation for a dredging survey in this area for recreational boating. No interest was shown from any source in extending commercial boating above Hartford but in recent years recreational boating has increased tremendously in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The Connecticut river rises in northern New Hampshire and the Province of Quebec in Canada, and flows southerly between New Hampshire and Vermont across Massachusetts and Connecticut. It is 390 miles long and drains an area of 11,260 square miles. It is tidal for a distance of 60 miles up to Hartford, with a 15 foot deep channel between Saybrook and Hartford, suitable for commercial vessels.

The 32 miles of the river between Hartford and Holyoke, Massachusetts, often referred to as the "Rhine of America", could be developed through an adequate dredging program for pleasure boating. This would open up this great natural resource for increased boating, fishing, and recreational opportunities for the 700,000 people in this area.

The first eleven miles between Hartford and Windsor Locks cannot be used at the present time for any kind of boating between May and November because of a controlling depth of only 2.5 feet. During dry periods the only flow is through the Windsor Locks canal.

At Windsor Locks boats would continue to use the canal around the Enfield rapids for a distance of approximately five miles. The canal is used now primarily for power and process water. This canal is six feet deep and will accommodate boats up to 60 feet in length.

The Enfield dam is at the upper end of the canal. It was constructed in 1824 and has a crest of 39.5 feet, backing up a pool 16.5 miles in length to Holyoke and the Holyoke dam. The depth of the river between the Enfield dam and the Holyoke dam averages 4.5 feet with considerable silt formation.

The Committee found a tremendous interest in the possibility of a pleasure boat channel between Hartford and Holyoke from persons in this area interested in boating, fishing and recreation. This was evidenced by a turnout of over 300 people at a public hearing on dredging conducted by the U.S. Army Engineers at Windsor Locks where federal, state, and local public officials, representatives from conservation groups, recreation groups, fish and game clubs, and boat clubs expressed their support for a navigable river.

Many pointed out that traffic surveys show that boat trailers going either to the Connecticut shore or to deeper sections of the river cause extreme highway congestion, which could be alleviated by opening this area of the river for recreational boating.

A resolution by the Committee on Rivers and Harbors of the House of Representatives in 1947 requested a review and survey of navigation of the Connecticut river between Hartford and Holyoke, based on using the river as a commercial artery. At that time it was recommended that a channel 12 feet deep and 100 feet wide be obtained by dredging and canalization of the river by the construction of a new higher dam and lock at Enfield combined with a federal hydroelectric power development.

These recommendations were made subject to certain conditions of local cooperation which were not met and no further action was taken.

This 1947 survey by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on this section of the Connecticut river, now thirty-eight years old, is outdated and no longer of value because of changing conditions now present in the river bed. Since this early survey private interests have undertaken minor dredging between Hartford and Springfield in an effort to revive water transportation for pleasure boats but these ventures have not been successful.

Although several hundred thousands of dollars has been authorized by Congress to make a basinwide study of the entire Connecticut river basin to consider all aspects of water use and related land use, it would be 1969 before this report would be available. A dredging study, if undertaken under this program, would be delayed until the completion of this report. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have estimated that \$75,000 of this authorization would be needed to provide hydrographic information necessary for actual dredging of the river in this area.

However, through the combined efforts of the members of Congress from Connecticut and Massachusetts, the Committees on Dredging from Connecticut and Massachusetts, State officials, and many others Congress included in their 1964-65 budget an appropriation of \$36,000 for a dredging survey of the Connecticut river between Hartford and Holyoke for recreational boating, and President Johnson's proposed budget for 1965-66 includes an additional item of \$27,000 to complete this two year survey. If this \$27,000 appropriation is approved by Congress the survey will be completed in 1966.

Considerable progress has already been made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the survey from the initial appropriation in 1964 of \$36,000.

The entire cost of the survey is being assumed by the Federal Government. Should the river be dredged for a pleasure boat channel the cost of the dredging would be allocated 50% to the Federal Government and 50% to the states of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The Committee is pleased that a start has been made in a dredging survey of this section of the river for recreational boating, with the hope that it will lead to an adequate dredging program in the near future.

To provide recreational boating between Hartford and Holyoke, Massachusetts two alternatives have been recommended for consideration:

One recommendation would be dredging of a channel 100 feet wide and six feet deep between Hartford and Windsor Locks, utilizing the locks to circumvent the Enfield rapids, and dredging where necessary above the Enfield dam. The major dredging would be the eleven mile stretch between Hartford and Windsor Locks, with the additional dredging of channels into local marinas and recreational areas.

The second recommendation would be the erection of a low dam at Hartford which would create a pond extending up to the Enfield dam, providing a wide expanse of water usable by pleasure craft over much of this area of the river with many miles of shoreline easily reached.

Further consultations are anticipated by this Committee with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as their survey progresses.

The Committee expresses its appreciation for the splendid cooperation of the United States Corps of Engineers, the Massachusetts Committee on Dredging under the able chairmanship of Senator Stanley Zard of Springfield and Representative Roger Bernashe of Chicopee, Governor Dempsey, State agencies, the Congressional delegation who supported our efforts in Washington, municipal officials, and many others who backed our efforts to advance the start of a dredging survey for this section of the Connecticut river.

It is the earnest desire of this Committee that the 1965 special regular session of the General Assembly will extend the term of office of this Committee and its present members so they may continue their efforts to bring about in the near future, through dredging, pleasure boating on the Connecticut river between Hartford and Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES J. HARTNETT, *Chairman.*

Senator BIBLE. This is a fine statement. I appreciate your coming here this morning.

Mr. HARTNETT. Thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Do you have other witnesses with you? You mentioned the other men. Would you desire to have any of them heard?

Mr. HARTNETT. Well, if they would like to, we would certainly be happy to have them. We have Senator Carlson here and Senator Fuller from the State Legislature of Connecticut if they wish to say a few words. Also Representatives Kane and Fuller.

Senator RIBICOFF. Would any of you gentlemen—Senator Carlson, Representative Kane, or others, wish to speak?

Senator BIBLE. We are very happy to have a word from each of you gentlemen. It shows your interest when you come to this hearing this morning from Connecticut.

STATEMENT OF HON. GUSTAF A. CARLSON, A STATE SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Senator CARLSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am State Senator Carlson, from the 34th District in Connecticut. I have worked on this commission, as Representative Hartnett already mentioned in the report he made to you, and have learned a great deal.

This particular part of the river, a section of the river from Hartford up to Windsor Locks as far as Connecticut is concerned, and on to Springfield, is a section that I believe, if opened up through dredging for pleasure boat recreational purposes in this area, will also stop the waters from moving and perhaps be a great help toward the beginning of a solution of the pollution problem.

I think that this has to be done, that the river has to be opened up in these particular spots where the water is very low during the summer. I think this is going to provide for the people of Connecticut, and hopefully for the people of Massachusetts, an exit right down through the Connecticut River to the sound.

At the present time, as Mr. Hartnett has said, there are many hundreds of thousands of boats in the State of Connecticut and many of these are hauled on trailers down to Long Island Sound. Now, in this particular area this would remove these hazards from the highways also.

Everything seems to tie in together toward going ahead with this project and I am certainly, as one from this commission, wholeheartedly in favor of Senator Ribicoff's bill and study in this area for recreational purposes.

I think this is a must on our program in Connecticut.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Senator Carlson.

Senator RIBICOFF. I think it should be noted that we have bipartisan support here. Both gentlemen are old friends of mine. Jim Hartnett is a Democrat from Windsor and Senator Carlson is a Republican from Killingworth, and I make this point because it indicates to you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, the overwhelming support for this proposal from our State.

You have the senators and the Governor represented. Also Commissioner Gill, who is my appointee when I was Governor. You have two members of the legislature, one from the State house of representatives, one from the State senate, one a Democrat and one a Republican.

We have a group I think that through Mr. Rosenberg really reflects the sentiments of the conservationists and public opinion in the State.

I just make this aside to you, Mr. Chairman, to indicate the overwhelming public support that we have in Connecticut for such a proposal.

Senator BIBLE. I am delighted that you said this so that the record will properly reflect it. Thank you very much.

Senator CARLSON. Thank you, Senator Ribicoff and thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Delighted to have you here.

Senator RIBICOFF. Would any of you other gentlemen from Connecticut like to say something?

STATEMENT OF HON. FRANKLIN FULLER, A STATE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Mr. FULLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Would you please identify yourself?

Mr. FULLER. I am Representative Franklin Fuller from Suffield.

Senator BIBLE. I am not sure that I got that last name.

Mr. FULLER. Franklin Fuller.

It is a great pleasure for me to appear before this committee and heartily endorse Senator Ribicoff's bill. I, too, enjoy thoroughly serving on this commission. The town I live in is right on the border of the Connecticut River. If any of you were in that area last summer during the drought season at Windsor Locks, you could have walked right across the river. I think it is most important that this area be dredged, not only from the point of view of pleasure but I think it would help immensely in the overall economic picture of our area.

Thank you very much for allowing me to say these few words.

Senator BIBLE. Delighted to have you here, Mr. Fuller.

Now, do we have other witnesses from Connecticut who wanted to say something?

STATEMENT OF JOHN N. KANE, HARTFORD, CONN.

Mr. KANE. Mr. Chairman.

Senator BIBLE. Would you identify yourself, please?

Mr. KANE. I am Mr. John N. Kane, Governor's appointee to this committee, and being a citizen of the great State of Connecticut and a resident of the city of Hartford, I would just like to add to the many statements made here today, all of which show the interest of the citizens of the State of Connecticut in this, and I certainly heartily agree with Senator Ribicoff that this is a bipartisan action. The people of the State of Connecticut have shown great interest in the work of this committee over the past 4 years, and we have been greatly heartened by the interest shown here today. Certainly we, the citizens of the State of Connecticut, are highly proud of the interest that the Federal Government now seems at long last to show in our area.

Thank you very much.

Senator BIBLE. Thank you very much, Mr. Kane.

Do we have others?

There is a statement here from Mr. Clapper which will be made a part of the record.

(The statement referred to follows:)

STATEMENT OF LOUIS S. CLAPPER ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE
FEDERATION

I am Louis S. Clapper, Chief of the Division of Conservation Education, National Wildlife Federation, which has its headquarters here in Washington, D.C. Ours is a private organization which seeks to attain conservation goals through educational means. Affiliates of the National Wildlife Federation are located in 49 states. These affiliates are composed of local groups and individuals who, when combined with associate members and other supporters of the National Wildlife Federation, number an estimated 2,000,000 persons.

We welcome the invitation and opportunity to appear here today.

Mr. Chairman, the National Wildlife Federation long has supported the principle and advocates the concept that lands and waters particularly suitable for public outdoor recreation be set aside before they are lost to some competing use or interest. The urgency of this procedure is highlighted by demands from the expanding human population. We are pleased that the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate and the House have taken positive action on several parks, seashores and lakeshores, recreation areas, and scenic riverways in recent years. At the same time, we believe even more areas merit and need protection.

The Connecticut River Parkway and Recreation Area in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire, proposed in S. 2460, is among those which should be protected and made available for public use and enjoyment. In fact, our organization met in annual convention earlier this year and adopted a resolution specifically endorsing the establishment of this area. A copy of this resolution is attached. Facilities of this type, located so near major metropolitan concentrations of people, are badly needed. The Connecticut area was recognized specifically in the President's February 23 message on preserving the national heritage.

Needless to say, we were disappointed that the Department of the Interior recommended S. 2460 be amended from an "establishment" bill to a "study" proposal. The National Wildlife Federation and its affiliates in the states are hopeful that the area can be established at an early date. If the Congress does adopt the Interior Department's version we urge that the study be expedited—even more rapidly than the proposed two years from enactment. This would preclude any delay which might result from coordinating this study with the New England River Basin Commission.

If the Subcommittee decides to establish the area, rather than study it, we have a change to recommend. We recommend that section 3 of S. 2460 be amended to include the Committee's standard language providing that hunting and fishing shall be permitted under appropriate state and Federal laws and regulations, with full consideration being given to needs for public safety.

Thank you for the opportunity of expressing these views.

THE CONNECTICUT RIVER PARKWAY AND RECREATIONAL AREA

Whereas, the Connecticut River, its surrounding highlands and banks, running through the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire is an area of great scenic, historic and natural beauty and is still largely unspoiled, an area oftentimes referred to as the beautiful "Rhine River of America" and unequalled in the Northeast part of our Nation; and

Whereas, proposed Legislation before Congress by Senator A. Ribicoff and others would create the Connecticut River Parkway and Recreational Area to be developed and administered by the National Park Service; and

Whereas, this area would provide significant recreational opportunities of all types in an area of our Nation now highly populated and unserved by any major National Park in the immediate area: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the National Wildlife Federation, in annual convention assembled March 12, 1966, at Pittsburgh, Pa., hereby endorses the establishment of the Connecticut River Parkway and Recreational Area in the firm belief that this area will create greatly needed recreational opportunities in an area of our Nation not adequately so served today.

Senator BIBLE, I have some statements and communications that without objection will be included in the record at this point.

(The data referred to follow:)

STATEMENT OF E. P. WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT, THE CONNECTICUT WATER COMPANY

It is respectfully requested that the U.S. Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs give consideration to the needs of future water supply in its hearings on S. 2460, a bill to authorize a Connecticut River National Parkway.

The Connecticut Water Company is franchised to serve an area involving more than 45 miles of Connecticut River shoreline running from the Massachusetts border south on the west side to the Windsor-Windsor Locks border, and from the Haddam-Chester border south to Long Island Sound.

In a study of the Company's projected needs through the year 2000, consulting engineers have recommended that areas served by the Company in Windsor Locks, Suffield, Enfield, East Windsor and South Windsor will have to be increased 5 times over present available supply and that the water requirements of Chester, Deep River and Essex will be $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in excess of current requirements.

In order to achieve these goals, it will be necessary to tap ground water sources, some of which may lie within what may eventually become the Connecticut River National Recreation area. Likewise, it will undoubtedly become necessary to take water directly from the River itself in the not too distant future, which after filtration and treatment, will be used for public water supply.

In view of the deep concern for the country's future water supplies now being expressed at Federal, State and Local levels, it is respectfully requested that no provision in this Bill in any way hinder or preclude future projects with respect to the use of the River or land areas adjacent to the River for the purposes of augmenting public water supplies in the areas served by the Company.

I am confident that any excavations required for pipes which may be needed to carry water to our existing mains would pose no problem whatsoever once the installation has been made. Any above ground structures such as pumping stations or filter plants could of course, be designed and landscaped in such a way as to be in keeping with the general surroundings and the objectives of whatever governing body will administer the area.

STATEMENT OF MRS. BERNARD H. FLOOD, CHAIRMAN, INTER-LEAGUE
COMMITTEE ON THE CONNECTICUT RIVER

(Leagues of Women Voters of Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and
Massachusetts)

The Inter-League Committee on the Connecticut River wishes to be recorded in favor of the study proposal for the Connecticut River embodied in the amended bill S. 2460. League members in the four state region through which the river flows are deeply concerned about the future of the river and the valley. We formed the Inter-League Committee so that we might take an active part in shaping the future of the valley. We therefore wish to make some observations which may prove useful.

We learned of the Ribicoff proposal and studied its implications. The matter, after referral to the Department of the Interior, is now suggested as a two year detailed study of the recreation, economic and conservation potentials of the entire Valley. We are in agreement with this proposal. We know that the pressures on this area—a part of the huge New England urban area—will be intense and that a means for the proper development and use must be devised. We are aware of course, of the Comprehensive study of the Connecticut being conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers. We suggest that although this is an excellent study, certain areas of necessity have not been included. Ecological and environmental studies necessary to wise land use planning are only incidental considerations. The Interior Department should have concentration in these areas. We think that a study of zoning and land use practices within the valley need study and evaluation, with serious consideration given to means for safeguarding local practices. State programs are already under way and close coordination between state agencies and the federal agencies must take place.

We should like to suggest particularly, that the citizen be closely involved in the study. The citizens now living in the valley have hopes and aspirations for the future. They also recognize that their fellow citizens in the heavily populated areas need the refreshment and revitalization that scenic beauty, outdoor recreation and outdoor sports will bring. The present Corps study fails in this very important respect, although some very small attempt has been made to give the

citizen some say. We suggest that the study be so devised that the citizen be given a specific role to play, in the devising of the plan of study, in the development of the plan of study, and most importantly, in the alternative choices to be made at the end of the study.

We have been pleased to know that the New England River Basins Commission has been established and look forward to seeing the appointment of the Commissioner very soon. We endorse close cooperation between the Commission, the Corps study and the Department of Interior study.

CAPITOL REGION PLANNING AGENCY,
Hartford, Conn., May 13, 1966.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Interior Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The Capitol Region Planning Agency wishes to record its endorsement of Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff's proposal to initiate a Federal study of the recreation, conservation and economic potentials of the Connecticut River basin in New England to determine the feasibility of establishing national park and recreation areas within the river valley.

The Connecticut River which extends 410 miles from the Canadian border to Long Island Sound is an outstanding waterway and natural resource in our State and in New England. In early days, the river played a significant and historic role in the location of our towns, in the development of industry and commerce, and in transportation. In more recent years, this role has diminished, and the river, unfortunately, has become but a useful outlet for the effluents of the society it fostered.

Yet today, and not unlike other great rivers of our country, the Connecticut is in fact assuming a different role; a role which is occupying the interests of many resource agencies and citizen groups dedicated to the preservation, conservation and wise use of the natural assets afforded us by the Connecticut River.

The river's new role is in offering us a challenge—a challenge to clean up its waters so that they may be available for future domestic and industrial water supplies, and also to be, once again, a clean waterway suitable to meet the multi-recreational demands of future populations in an outside the river basin. Many of the landscape features created by the river still remain, and we are now challenged to preserve for future generations to enjoy these marsh and meadow lands, the forested hills and ridgelines which parallel the river, and the many tributary streams and rivers which replenish the river along its course.

Here in the 765 square mile Capitol Region, with a present population of 600,000 people, our Agency is responsible for the comprehensive planning of this rapidly expanding metropolitan area through the center of which the Connecticut River meanders for 31 miles. We have already taken preliminary steps toward the preservation of such areas by having prepared and adopted a Regional Land Use Plan which emphasizes the significant recreation and conservation areas within this portion of the Connecticut valley. Flood plain zoning and stream encroachment lines are already in effect to protect some of the river's landscape resources.

Thus, the initiation of Senator Ribicoff's proposed Federal study, in conjunction with local, regional and State resource agencies, for the establishment of national park and recreation areas along the Connecticut River is a most timely and worthwhile endeavor to meet these challenges. The Capitol Region Planning Agency, composed of 59 representatives from 26 member towns, is pleased to endorse this proposed study, and offers its assistance in promoting the creation of a Connecticut River National Park.

Respectfully submitted.

PHILIP J. BAUER, *Chairman.*

(The plan referred to is in the files of the committee.)

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT., May 18, 1966.

Senator ALAN BIBLE,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Parks,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: The following is respectfully submitted to your committee for inclusion in the record of your hearing of May 20 on S. 2460 concerning

Senator A. Ribicoff's proposal for a national park and recreation area on the Connecticut River.

This proposal could have a far-reaching effect on the land use and economy of Vermont. It is, therefore, indispensable that the proposal be explained in a public forum in Vermont and that the reactions of the people of the State be systematically received. A hearing on this bill, along with provision of information, should take place in Vermont. The hearing should occur not after the bill is passed but during the process of deliberation and as an integral part of the decision-making process.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

FREDERIC O. SARGENT.

EAST HADDAM, CONN., May 19, 1966.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*Chairman, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation,
Senate Interior Committee, Washington, D.C.*

SIR: The East Haddam Garden Club unanimously voted at their May 18, 1966 meeting in favor of Senator Abraham Ribicoff's bill to establish a Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreation Area. We have a priceless heritage and feel that everything possible must be done to preserve it. We know that you will do all in your power to do so. Mr. Julian D. Rosenberg of the Connecticut Valley Action Committee has strongly stated that the power lines considered should be placed *under the river*. If land is given to the State for recreational purposes, nothing that jeopardizes its beauty and usefulness to the public should be even considered. Therefore, we voted unanimously for Senator Ribicoff's bill.

Very truly yours,

ELIZABETH A. WALLACE
Mrs. Edward S. Wallace,
East Haddam Garden Club.

Senator BIBLE. The hearing will be kept open for the purpose of hearing from Senator Aiken and Governor Hoff.
(The information referred to follows:)

STATE OF VERMONT,
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,
Montpelier, May 27, 1966.

HON. ALAN BIBLE,
*U.S. Senator from Nevada,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR SENATOR BIBLE: Thank you very much for your letter of May 23 regarding S. 2460, a bill to authorize establishment of the Connecticut River National Parkway and Recreational Area.

I greatly appreciate your courtesy in being willing to delay action on the measure to permit me to submit testimony on the bill.

Since my telegram, I have had an opportunity to discuss the study proposed by the Department of the Interior with Senator Aiken.

As a result of my review of the proposal with Senator Aiken, I no longer consider it essential that the State of Vermont be heard directly in this regard. I now see no necessity to appear before your committee, although I do wish you would consider this formal notice of my support for the study.

I would urge, however, that strong consideration be given Senator Aiken's concern that the study of "recreational potential" be broad enough to include future utilization of agricultural lands which now are such a significant part of the Connecticut River Valley economy.

I am confident that Senator Aiken speaks with full understanding and knowledge of our mutual concern in this regard.

Again, thank you for your courtesy.

Cordially,

PHILIP H. HOFF, *Governor.*

Senator BIBLE. This particular hearing will stand in recess.

(Whereupon, at 11:45 a.m., the committee proceeded to other business.)

