

[Jt. Res. No. 114, A.]

No. 71, 1927.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Requesting the President of the United States to convene Congress in special session to enact legislation for Mississippi River Flood Control and for the building of the St. Lawrence Waterway.

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WHEREAS, Honorable Herbert Hoover, the very able and efficient Secretary of Commerce of the United States, has stated that the two most important questions confronting this country are the Mississippi River flood control and the building of the St. Lawrence Waterway and has endorsed both projects as being entirely feasible; and

WHEREAS, The urgent necessity for Mississippi River flood control was shown in April and May this year when more than twenty thousand square miles of territory in the lower Mississippi River valley were flooded, seven hundred fifty thousand people were rendered homeless and property worth many millions of dollars was destroyed; and

WHEREAS, Permanent flood control would mean security of life and property in an area in the lower Mississippi River valley, larger than all of New England, exclusive of Maine, while the building of the St. Lawrence Waterway would benefit the entire upper Mississippi River valley and the Great Lakes region, it having been stated by the St. Lawrence Commission that "the value in a single year to the farmers alone would equal the capital cost of the waterway;" and

WHEREAS, Permanent flood control in the Mississippi River valley can be secured at an estimated expenditure of one hundred fifty million dollars, and the St. Lawrence Waterway at a cost of about two hundred fifty million dollars, which are small sums as compared with seven hundred fifty million dollars expended annually upon the army and navy, and the eight billion dollars which the last congress remitted in principal and interest to foreign debtor nations; and

WHEREAS, Time is of vital importance in getting these great projects under way since at best several years will elapse before they are completed, and there is grave danger that nothing will

be done along either line if these projects are thrown into the political maelstrom of a regular session of Congress preceding a presidential election; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,* That the President of the United States be and is hereby respectfully petitioned by this legislature to convene Congress in special session to enact legislation for effective and permanent flood control in the lower Mississippi River valley and for the immediate construction of the St. Lawrence Waterway.

Received August 5, 1927.