

WHEREAS, The only measure of relief that has been enacted is the emergency construction bill which will make available about one hundred sixteen million dollars for additional public construction, of which probably not more than sixty per cent will go in wages to workmen, allowing only on the average about fourteen dollars per unemployed workman; and

WHEREAS, There are many public construction projects that ought to be carried out at this time, including improvement of five hundred thousand miles of primary through highways in this country; and

WHEREAS, The only objection offered to the adoption of an adequate program of public construction, which would at once end the present depression, is that it would cost perhaps one to five billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, A Liberty Loan for the jobless of this amount would be but a small fraction of the more than twenty billion dollars of Liberty Loan contracted by this country for the prosecution of a foreign war and the feeding of starving people in European nations; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring, That the Legislature of Wisconsin hereby respectfully memorializes the Congress of the United States to at once enact legislation making appropriations for a really adequate program of public construction which would afford employment to all unemployed workmen and end the existing depression. Be it therefore

Resolved, That properly attested copies of this resolution be sent to both houses of the Congress of the United States and to each Wisconsin member thereof.

[Jt. Res. No. 17, S.]

[Deposited March 6, 1931.]

No. 23, 1931.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation for the public operation and development of Muscle Shoals.

WHEREAS, During the war period the United States government invested more than one hundred fifty million dollars in dams and other property in the stretch of the Tennessee river in Alabama known as Muscle Shoals, and this is one of the world's greatest power developments; and

WHEREAS, This great investment of the people of the United States is being dissipated through the failure of Congress to make provisions for the development and operation of this project and there is grave danger that the entire property will be given away to power interests on the plea that the government should not engage in business; and

WHEREAS, President Hoover during the presidential campaign of 1928 in an interview stated that the principle that the government should not engage in business should not be applied to Muscle Shoals inasmuch as this project has already been developed at public expense, and the benefits thereof should go to the entire people of the country and not to any limited number of private individuals or corporations; and

WHEREAS, The seventieth Congress enacted legislation for the public development and operation of Muscle Shoals, only to have this bill killed by a pocket veto, and the United States Senate in the seventieth Congress has passed a similar measure; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring, That the Legislature of the state of Wisconsin again expresses its endorsement of the plan for the public operation and development of Muscle Shoals, generally known as the Norris bill, and urges the Congress of the United States to promptly pass this measure and the President to give his approval thereto. Be it further

Resolved, That properly attested copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to both houses of the Congress of the United States, and to each Wisconsin member thereof.