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Resolution 1962-18-26 Federal Water Pollution Control Administration

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 17

SALTONSTALL-KENNEDY FUNDS

Whereas, the Federal Government now collects substantial sums of money from import duties on fishery products which funds are earmarked and set aside under the terms of the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, and

Whereas, these funds have been used almost entirely by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service alone in research problems pertaining to oceanic fisheries, and

Whereas, the various states along the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf Coasts as well as several states having coastal and inland waters also carry on similar research usually with wholly inadequate funds;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Saltonstall-Kennedy Law be amended to broaden the use of these funds to include commercial fisheries research, rehabilitation and development projects for both coastal and inland waters; and

Be it further resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners endorses legislation similar to S. 1230 introduced by Senator Ernest Gruening to establish an additional fund for fishery research programs and fisheries rehabilitation and development projects, and that the State Fisheries agencies be authorized to share in the benefits of these funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 18

FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

Whereas, in 1961 Congress amended the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to vest the administration of the Act in the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, such amendment being in line with recommendations of this association and other conservation organizations, and

Whereas, despite this directive by Congress the Secretary of H.E.W. delegated back to the Surgeon General the administration of the Act, and

Whereas, there has been a concerted effort on the part of the Public Health Service to create a Bureau of Environmental Health as one of its several bureaus and within which water pollution control would be administered merely as one division along with several other administrative divisions, and

Whereas, the top administrators of the Public Health Service are medical technicians of ability and dedication in their own field but have demonstrated a lack of sufficient understanding of the broad natural resource aspects of water pollution, and

Whereas, this association believes the Federal Water Pollution Control Program is too important to be submerged as a minor part of an administrative hierarchy;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners endorses and recommends the enactment of H. R. 11994, as introduced by Congressman John A. Blatnik, or a similar bill, to create a Federal Water Pollution Control Administration as a separate operating agency in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, removing the program from under the Public Health Service and giving it status and authority commensurate with its vital, national purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 19

PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL WATERFOWL PROGRAM

Whereas, for no less than 30 years, conservationists and wildlife biologists have been deeply concerned over the problem of waterfowl habitat preservation, waterfowl production and the sport of wildfowling; and

Whereas, progress has been made in recent years especially through the authorization and partial appropriation of funds for a \$105,000,000 program of wetlands easement, leasing or purchasing; and

Whereas, there is urgent need for this wetlands preservation program to be carried on in both Canada and the United States; and

Whereas, in the United States, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife now has a year or more of experience in attempting to implement this program, and in Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service is establishing pilot projects to determine the most feasible, effective and acceptable program of wetlands preservation;

Be it therefore resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners reiterates its stand in favor an international program of overall waterfowl management; and

Be it further resolved, that the association urges that, at the earliest possible, the appropriate Canadian and United States agencies endeavor to perfect a cooperative plan or program that will provide the best possible administration and management of our waterfowl resources.