

WHEREAS, the lack of this fuel for use in beneficiating the low grade iron ores is causing serious unemployment in northeastern Minnesota;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that the federal power commission be requested to speedily process the applications for permission to furnish natural gas to this area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State be instructed to transmit copies of this resolution to the federal power commission.

Approved March 25, 1959.

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RESOLUTION No. 5—H. F. No. 593

*A resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States to adopt the Blatnik Amendment to the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act."*

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has recognized the benefits resulting to the public health and welfare by the prevention and control of water pollution; and

WHEREAS, it is the declared policy of the Congress of the United States to recognize, preserve, and protect the primary responsibilities and rights of the states in preventing and controlling water pollution, to support and aid technical research relating to the prevention and control of water pollution, and to provide financial aid to state, and interstate agencies and to municipalities in connection with the prevention and control of water pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable John A. Blatnik, a member of Congress from the State of Minnesota, has proposed an amendment, H.R. 3610, to the "Federal Water Pollution Control Act," which amendment provides for a more effective control and prevention of water pollution, and for increased financial aid to state and municipalities for such purpose, and is known as the "Blatnik Amendment" to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and

WHEREAS, the President has named a nine-man advisory board to study the water pollution situation and make recommendations, which board has filed its report and recommendations, which recommendations are incorporated in H.R. 3610;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota, that the Congress of the United States enact H.R. 3610, an amendment to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the State of Minnesota be instructed to transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, and to each member of Congress from the State of Minnesota.

Approved March 25, 1959.

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RESOLUTION No. 6—H. F. No. 919

*A resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation dedicating 100 percent of road user excise taxes to highway use.*

WHEREAS, the United States government in cooperation with the states has embarked on a program for construction of a network of 41,000 miles of modern interstate and defense highways to be built by the year 1975, in addition to the construction and improvement of the state's regular federal aid primary and secondary highways with their necessary urban connections, all of which are necessary to the economic welfare of our country; and

WHEREAS, federal aid funds for these highways are derived from taxation on highway users, but these taxes are only dedicated in part to the Highway Trust Fund, the fund from which federal aid is disbursed, which will result in a deficiency in the trust fund of over a billion dollars per year; and

WHEREAS, there is danger that an effort will be made to take care of the deficiency in the trust fund by imposing an additional 1½ cent federal gas tax; and

WHEREAS, the road users of the country assumed that the Highway Revenue Act of 1956, provided that all road user excise taxes be dedicated to highway purposes, but in section 209 of this act, subsection (c), the only portion of these taxes appropriated to the trust fund were the tax on motor fuel, tires, the special tax on heavy trucks, and one-half the tax on trucks and buses; and if the tax on automobiles, parts, and the other one-half of the tax on trucks and buses, which are truly road user taxes, were also dedicated to the Highway Trust Fund,