

House Concurrent Resolution No. 31

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHIEFFER (Sponsor), GUERNSEY, SHIVELY,
CONWAY (14), ENTLICHER, SHUMAKE, SOMMER AND HOUGHTON (Co-sponsors).

5548L.011

:

2 **WHEREAS**, the United States Corps of Engineers' five-year study of the Upper
3 Mississippi River Basin, which is everything north of Cairo, Illinois, failed to produce a plan for
4 flood control acceptable to all stakeholders; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Mississippi River Commission did recommend Plan H to the United
6 States Congress; and

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8 **WHEREAS**, the Corps of Engineers has not recommended this plan to the United States
9 Congress, citing the expense of the construction of 500-year levees along these rivers, estimated
10 to be \$6 billion, does not meet current cost-benefit guidelines for federal funding; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, the Corps of Engineers additionally determined a need for better data based
13 upon new hydrology and flow studies and the need to study tributaries of the Mississippi River;
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16 **WHEREAS**, the Corps of Engineers indicated that ramifications of the additional 500-
17 year levees and their potential to cause additional flooding would need to be determined, and
18 affected populations and communities informed and advised of the potential impact; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, the affected counties include the Missouri counties of Lincoln, Pike, and
21 St. Charles; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, Plan H designates only about half of the levees in the Missouri counties of
24 Lincoln, Pike, and St. Charles be raised, while to the north a higher percentage of 500-year levees
25 are recommended for both sides of the river; and

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27 **WHEREAS**, the stakeholders in the Missouri counties of Lincoln, Pike, and St. Charles
28 desire the protections provided by the 500-year levees; and

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30 **WHEREAS**, the proposed Plan H, if implemented, denies the benefits of 500-year levees
31 to those making a living along the Mississippi River, negatively impacting agriculture,
32 transportation, businesses, industries, tourism, hunting, fishing, boating, infrastructure, and
33 residences; and

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35 **WHEREAS**, over 6,500 citizens have signed petitions opposing the proposed Plan H;
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38 **WHEREAS**, the Upper Mississippi River Basin should receive funding comparable to
39 funding for the Southern Mississippi River Basin from Cairo, Illinois, to New Orleans,
40 Louisiana:

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42 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
43 Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
44 concurring therein, hereby strongly urge the United States Congress to support a comprehensive
45 plan for the Upper Mississippi River Basin that enhances system-wide flood control without
46 creating adverse impacts on existing levees, levee districts, rural communities, and metropolitan
47 areas. The plan should be based on analysis that quantifies the impacts of enhanced flood control
48 measures and acknowledges the importance of keeping agricultural land in production. The
49 proposed Plan H making the Missouri counties of Lincoln, Pike, and St. Charles the lowest
50 points on the Mississippi River levee system is totally unacceptable and we ask the Missouri
51 Congressional delegation to oppose this plan; and

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53 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
54 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copies of this resolution for each
55 member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

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