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ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

3027

2001 HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES

HCR 3027

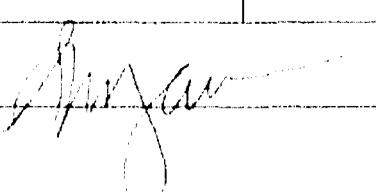
2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3027

House Natural Resources Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 15, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		4090 to 4900
1		x	1695 to
Committee Clerk Signature 			

Minutes:

Chairman Earl Rennerfeldt, Vice Chair Jon O. Nelson, Rep. Brekke, Rep. DeKrey, Rep. Droydal, Rep. Galvin, Rep. Keiser, Rep. Klein, Rep. Nottestad, Rep. Porter, Rep. Weiler, Rep. Hanson, Rep. Kelsh, Rep. Winrich.

Chairman Rennerfeldt: I will open the hearing on HCR 3027. We have Rep. Schmidt here.

Rep. Schmidt - District 12: It is always hard to criticize your government, that is what this resolution does. It criticizes an action that they took. I want you to keep in mind that criticism of your government is something like when you discipline your children. I love America and I want these corrections made. You might laugh about this handout, but it will show you what GATT, NAFTA and the EPA has done to this country. (see article about toilets). This set me off to draw up this resolution. You all know about the ag chemicals with Canada and prescription drugs. 50% of my senior citizens are crossing over to Canada to buy drugs because they are half price.

We need a change in the NAFTA. I was on an interim ag study committee and members of this committee heard Representatives come from Washington and the bottom had dropped out of the soybean market. In North America in order to get a better price reduced their soybean acreage. As we reduced that Canada and South America doubled their acreage in soybeans. This is only one reason to look at the NAFTA agreement. About fifty years ago I was sent to Korea to protect that country from Communist China and now they are trading grain, because America's corn was \$2 higher. They purchased corn from the country we protected them from, at great cost. We still have 20,000 troops over there, I think NAFTA needs to be changed, if they want to do this, protect your own country. Bring those troops home. We are the leader of the free world, we should also be the leader of a fair world. I hope that you act favorably on this resolution.

Chairman Rennerfeldt: Any questions of the committee? Anyone else wish to testify in favor of HCR 3027, opposed? I will close the hearing on HCR 3027.

COMMITTEE WORK

Chairman Rennerfeldt: Okay let's do HCR 3027.

Rep. DeKrey: I move a Do Pass.

Rep. Kelsh: I second.

Chairman Rennerfeldt: Any further discussion? If not, all those in favor of HCR 3027 say Aye, opposed? Ayes have it.

Date: 2/15/01
Roll Call Vote #:

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3027

House Natural Resources Committee

Subcommittee on _____
or
 Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DO Pass

Motion Made By Rep DeKrey Seconded By Rep Kelsh

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Earl Rennerfeldt - Chairman			Lyle Hanson		
Jon O. Nelson - Vice Chairman			Scot Kelsh		
Curtis E. Brekke			Lonnie B. Winrich		
Duane DeKrey			Dorvan Solberg		
David Drovdal					
Pat Galvin					
George Keiser					
Frank Klein					
Darrell D. Nottestad					
Todd Porter					
Dave Weiler					

Total (Yes) _____ No _____

Absent _____

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

voice vote consent calendar

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 15, 2001 12:17 p.m.

Module No: HR-28-3493
Carrier: Weller
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3027: Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Rennerfeldt, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3027 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

2001 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR 3027

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HCR 3027

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date March 23, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		14.3-43.7
Committee Clerk Signature <i>James A. Rials</i>			

Minutes: **Chairman Krebsbach** opened the hearing on HCR 3027 which is a resolution urging Congress to correct the inequities of international trade policy. Appearing before the committee to introduce the bill was **Representative Arlo Schmidt**, district 12. He indicated this was a resolution which came out of seeing the inequities of the NAFTA agreement in his area of the state. He reviewed the basics of the resolution with the committee. He then related a story to the committee relative to a situation with lavatory equipment which is no longer available to citizens of the United States unless they purchase the product in Canada and then bring it back to the United States for installation. A copy relative to this story is attached. Senator T. Mathern noted that he believed that the stool issue is more of a federal government EPA issue than it is a World Trade Agreement or a GATT issue. He wondered if that is your intent here really, it seems like it really had nothing to do with that. The EPA if they changed their rules you could buy the product you are looking for here. Whether or not GATT changed or NAFTA changed, he wonders what that would have to do with the availability of plumbing fixtures such as toilets.

Representative Schmidt indicated he checked into this along with the plumbers and that was an agreement that included EPA, NAFTA, and GATT. It's been quite a while since they signed this but a lot of the inequities are coming more and more to light. If you go back to your town you will find out. He found out just how many people are disgusted with this. **Chairman Krebsbach** indicated that she couldn't agree more. Instead of conserving you end up flushing two or three times. She thinks that the law that the 1.6 standard came in under was the energy policy conservancy act. The North American Free Trade Agreement allows you to go to Canada where they don't enact that to bring back your 3.5 standard. **Representative Schmidt** indicated she was right. **Senator Dever** indicated that in his recollection when these agreement were negotiated Senator Dorgan opposed them and Senator Conrad supported them. He didn't recall how Congressman Pomeroy stood on them. **Carol Two Eagles** appeared before the committee as a private citizen. She indicates she supports this resolution. There were no questions from the committee. The hearing on HCR 3027 was closed by **Chairman Krebsbach**. A Do Pass motion was made by **Senator C. Nelson**, seconded by **Senator Wardner**. Roll Call Vote indicated 6 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Absent or Not Voting. The resolution was placed on the Consent Calendar. Senator Dever will carry the bill.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 26, 2001 7:31 a.m.

Module No: SR-52-6667
Carrier: Dever
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3027: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Krebsbach, Chairman)
recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR** (6 YEAS,
0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3027 was placed on the Tenth order
on the calendar.

2001 TESTIMONY

HCR 3027



Tired of an impoverished flush?

Go north!

BY JAY LEHR PH.D.

One of the hottest imports from Canada these days is the old-fashioned 3.5 gallon capacity toilet. The toilets were outlawed for sale in the U.S. in 1994, when federal water conservation law set the new standard at 1.6 gallons a flush.

But no law makes it illegal to cross the border into Canada, where the 3.5 gallon toilet is still available, and bring a toilet back to the U.S.

U.S. toilet manufacturers—American Standard, Mansfield, Kohler, Eljer, and others—are permitted to make the 3.5 gallon toilets for export to Canada. Thanks to the North American Free Trade Agreement, Americans can purchase them in Canada and bring them back to the states duty-free.

Seventy-two percent of respondents to a 1998 survey conducted by the National Association of Home Builders reported problems with their 1.6 gallon toilets, which often required a second flush—can-

celing out their water conservation feature.

Advocates of 1.6 gallon toilets claim the 50 million low-flush fixtures sold since 1994 save 500 million gallons of water a day, making expensive investments in expanded water supply and sewage disposal facilities less necessary.

In an interview with the Associated Press, Tim Harmon, owner of Tim & Billy's Salvage in Indianapolis, noted, "We have people building million dollar houses, but they come in here to buy an old toilet." Harmon says he sells as many as 20 old toilets a week.

G. Gordon Liddy, who won notoriety for working with a different breed of plumber during Watergate, boasted on his radio program that he traveled overseas to buy banned toilets for his new house. In a monologue on toilet totalitarianism, Liddy warned, "next, government will require us to wear helmets in the shower, lest we slip and fall."

Congressman Joe Knollenberg (R-Michigan) has sponsored legislation to restore "toilet choice." His proposal to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, H.R. 623, failed to move out of the Subcommittee on Energy and Power in April 2000. (See "Federal government has no business in your bathroom," *Environment & Climate News*, November 1999).

REP
Schmidt



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