

SENATE RESOLUTION

CHAPTER 813

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

(Vosper)

(Approved by the Committee on Delayed Bills)

PEMBILIER DAM PROJECT

A resolution expressing the support of the Senate of the North Dakota Legislative Assembly for the construction of the Pembilier Dam Project.

WHEREAS, the construction of a multipurpose dam on the Pembina River in northeastern North Dakota has been under investigation and study for more than 25 years by the Army Corps of Engineers, the International Joint Commission, the North Dakota State Water Conservation Commission, the province of Manitoba, and others at a total expenditure approaching \$3.5 million; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies have been completed but funding for the Pembilier Dam Project, with Canada participating in the construction costs as a joint venture, has not yet been authorized; and

WHEREAS, the benefits assignable to flood damage reduction, a dependable supply of water, and possible irrigation in the agricultural and urban areas of the Pembina River Basin are estimated to exceed \$2 million annually; and

WHEREAS, the Pembilier Dam would alleviate approximately 72 percent of the Pembina River flood damage in the United States and 20 percent in Canada; and

WHEREAS, the project would provide the only solution to a serious and continuing boundary dispute between the two countries by alleviating the severity of spring flooding on the Red River of the North that is a constant problem to the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, there exists strong and continuous support for the project by the public and all local, state, and provincial units of government, including all conservation interests and agencies; and

WHEREAS, the phase one study authorized by Congress and a reevaluation of the benefits to cost ratio report is scheduled for completion in 1983;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA:

That the Senate of the Forty-eighth Legislative Assembly requests the United States Congress to support rapid completion of all studies and reports relative to the Pembilier Dam Project and urges the United States Congress to authorize construction of the Pembilier Dam so urgently needed for the protection and livelihood of people and their property located in the lower Pembina Basin in the United States and Canada; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, the United States Department of State, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Canadian Department of External Affairs, the Water Resources Branch of the Manitoba Department of Natural Resources, and the secretary-treasurer of the Lower Red River Valley Water Commission.

Filed March 21, 1983