

2. POLICY POSITION

ECONOMIC AND NATURAL RESOURCES STUDY COMMISSION

BACKGROUND

Representative Bruce Niemi of Oklahoma has proposed legislation which would create an Economic and Natural Resources Study Commission whose purpose is to work in conjunction with legislative representatives from the states of Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas to identify and report on the various industries common to these states, the economic impact of these industries and their impact on the states' natural resources. Included in the Commission's purpose is the identification of existing or potential sources of discharge into water resources of the states, to investigate remedies and recommend possible solutions which would ensure continued economic growth and protection of natural resources. Additionally, the Commission is to investigate and negotiate the necessity and advisability of a compact between the four states so as to encourage development of programs to ensure continued economic growth of the states of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas and protection of their natural resources.

RECOMMENDATION

The Southern Legislative Conference recognizes that the proposed Economic and Natural Resources Study Commission will be beneficial, and that it is in the best interest of the states of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas to identify their common industries and to study the potential impact of these industries on the natural resources of the states. The Southern Legislative Conference urges those states of Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas to support the proposed Commission, and to take all necessary steps to work in conjunction with Oklahoma on the proposed Economic and Natural Resources Study Commission.

Adopted by the Southern Legislative Conference, August 11, 1992, Miami Beach, Florida.

Sponsored by: Representative Bruce Niemi, Oklahoma

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