

RESOLUTION 3-S.F.No. 1051

A resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States to reject pending legislation that would authorize the use of Minnesota waters for the transportation of coal and would grant the right of eminent domain of coal slurry pipelines.

WHEREAS, Minnesota's water is a precious resource that is necessary and claimed for agricultural, domestic, recreational, and beneficial uses; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's lakes and the Mississippi River have suffered drastic drought which has depleted water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's water rights may be preempted by federal legislation, now pending before the Congress of the United States, that would authorize the use of Minnesota waters to transport coal by slurry pipeline; and

WHEREAS, this proposed federal legislation would permit coal slurry pipeline consortiums the right of eminent domain for the transportation of coal, using Minnesota waters, to distant utilities; and

WHEREAS, unit coal trains that currently transport vast quantities of coal to Minnesota utilities would be eliminated, causing the loss of permanent Minnesota railroad jobs; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the Congress of the United States to reject pending legislation that would authorize the use of Minnesota waters for the transportation of coal and would grant the right of eminent domain of coal slurry pipelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed to prepare certified copies of this resolution and transmit them to the President of the United States, President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Chief Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and to Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Presented to the governor April 25, 1989

Filed April 25, 1989