

No. 32

(House Joint Resolution 58)

House Joint Resolution requesting the Legislative Council or one of its Committees to consider the establishment of a Patuxent River Valley Park Authority in order to prevent the pollution of the Patuxent River.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly in 1961 by the provisions of Chapter 450 authorized those counties of the state abutting on the Patuxent River in cooperation with the Department of Forests and Parks to establish a watershed area along the river to prevent floods, conserve the watershed, prevent sedimentation of the river and erosion of the watershed and to prevent the spread of urban development; and

WHEREAS, funds for the purposes of Chapter 450 were provided in the amount of \$150,000 in the 1961 General Construction Loan to be expended under the direction of the Board of Public Works for the acquisition of land in the Patuxent watershed by outright purchase or equal matching of funds appropriated by one or more of the counties in the Patuxent watershed; and

~~Whereas, the General Assembly hereby declares there has been unnecessary and deliberate delay on the part of the Department of Forests and Parks in the utilization of the fund of \$150,000 by refusing to commit any of the fund when matching funds for all or any part of the entire fund of \$150,000 were offered by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, with the result that no part of the 1961 fund has yet been expended and further development and pollution of the Patuxent continues unrestricted; and~~

~~Whereas, investigation should be made promptly of measures to remedy a disgraceful situation, such investigation to consider the need for establishment of a Patuxent River Valley Park Authority composed of members of those counties abutting on the Patuxent River, Howard, MONTGOMERY, Anne Arundel, Prince George's, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's; now therefore, be it~~

WHEREAS, MATCHING FUNDS FOR ALL OR PART OF THE ENTIRE FUND OF \$150,000 WERE OFFERED BY THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION, BUT NO PART OF THE 1961 STATE FUNDS HAS YET BEEN EXPENDED; AND

WHEREAS, CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE NEED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A PATUXENT RIVER VALLEY PARK AUTHORITY COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF THOSE COUNTIES ABUTTING ON THE PATUXENT RIVER, NAMELY: HOWARD, MONTGOMERY, ANNE ARUNDEL, PRINCE GEORGE'S, CALVERT, CHARLES AND ST. MARY'S; NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Legislative Council is requested to consider itself or by one of its com-