

limited to, an objective review of the advantages and disadvantages of private firms making investments in and operating facilities such as boating sites, rental services, lodging and overnight accommodations, stores, restaurants and cafes, post offices, sports facilities, etc. and be it further

RESOLVED, That the results of the joint study be reported to the General Assembly prior to the convening of the 1977 Legislative Session; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable Marvin Mandel, Governor; to the Honorable Neil Solomon, Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene; to the Honorable James B. Coulter, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources[[,]]; and to the Honorable Kenneth R. Barnes, Secretary of the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning.

Approved May 17, 1976.

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No. 78

(House Joint Resolution No. 151)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Treatment of Sewage by Aquatic Plants

FOR the purpose of requesting the Maryland Environmental Service to study the feasibility of implementing certain programs for the treatment of sewage by aquatic [[plants]] plants and to formulate a proposal for the implementation of a pilot project in this State.

Methods developed in a NASA scientific laboratory may be capable of transforming plant material that has been used to remove chemical pollutants from water systems into useful industrial products, mixed hydrocarbon fuels and possibly a new food source.

Environmental scientists at NASA's National Space Technology Laboratories (NSTL) in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi have been experimenting since 1971 with vascular aquatic plants (those equipped with a system of vessels that convey nourishment from roots through leaves), particularly water hyacinths.

Water hyacinths, common to tropical and subtropical regions, and generally regarded as an overproductive nuisance, may represent a remarkably efficient and inexpensive filtration and disposal system for toxic materials and sewage released into waters near urban and industrial areas.