

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

Relating to the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission.

Whereas, the General Assembly recognizes the need for all Missourians and all geographic areas of the state to have access to a reliable and safe water supply; and

Whereas, the Multipurpose Water Resource Act, set forth in Sections 256.435 to 256.445 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, permits the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to participate in the development, construction, or renovation of approved water resource projects, which may include the use of money in the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund established in the state treasury to carry out approved water resource projects; and

Whereas, the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission is sponsoring a project to develop a long-term water resource reservoir for a ten county area in north central Missouri - the reservoir to be located in Sullivan County; and

Whereas, the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission's project has been approved in accordance with the Multipurpose Water Resource Act to receive funds from the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund; and

Whereas, the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission expects the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to issue a Record of Decision and permit the commencement of construction of the reservoir in the current calendar year (2021); and

Whereas, the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission requires funding that exceeds the current balance in the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund. Therefore,

once a Record of Decision is issued, the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission intends to secure a loan and grant package from the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development. The funding package will consolidate the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission's debt and provide funding for construction of the reservoir. The North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission's funding package could total 48.5 million dollars with a thirty five year repayment schedule; and

Whereas, as a stipulation of the Letter of Conditions between the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development and the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission, it will be necessary for the state to enter into an agreement with the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission for financial assurances associated with loans made from the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development and the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission; and

Whereas, it may be additionally necessary for the state to annually appropriate, and for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to allocate, funds from the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund over the thirty five year repayment term of the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development loan:

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the members of the Missouri Senate of the One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby support the funding of the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission project by the state entering into a long-term commitment of money in the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund, subject to appropriations; provided that the total annual cost does not

exceed 1.5 million dollars, and the total cost over the life of the contract does not exceed 24 million dollars; and

Be It Further Resolved that the members of the General Assembly support the following:

1. The payment of debt service to the United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development on behalf of the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission, which shall be payable from future appropriations to be made by the General Assembly of General Revenue funds to the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund; and

2. Pursuant to Article IV, Section 28 of the Missouri Constitution, this resolution shall not bind future General Assemblies to make any appropriation for the purposes enumerated herein. It is the present intent of the General Assembly that during each of the fiscal years in which the state has entered into an agreement for long-term support of a project, General Revenue be appropriated to the Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund in an amount sufficient to fulfill the obligations of the contract between the state and the North Central Missouri Regional Water Commission; and

Be It Further Resolved that this resolution shall be approved or rejected by the Governor pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.