

By: Representative Pitsch  
By: Senator Files

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE ARKANSAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION  
STUDY THE CREATION OF AN INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR  
COMMERCE AMONG STATES BENEFITTING FROM AND  
PARTICIPATING IN THE MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER  
NAVIGATION SYSTEM.

### Subtitle

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CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION STUDY THE  
CREATION OF AN INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR  
COMMERCE AMONG STATES BENEFITTING FROM  
AND PARTICIPATING IN THE MCCLELLAN-KERR  
ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System is a four-hundred-forty-five-mile navigation system consisting of eighteen (18) locks and dams, thirteen (13) of which are in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, two thousand (2,000) semitrucks serve the ports on the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System daily, providing jobs and opportunities to the trucking industry that may otherwise be nonexistent; and

WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System is a vital tool in Arkansas's economic development; and

WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System faces



funding challenges in part because of federal budget constraints and the elimination of earmark provisions in Congress; and

WHEREAS, navigation on the nation's inland waterways is solely within the discretion of the federal government; and

WHEREAS, an interstate compact would provide additional opportunities for permissible federal spending to address the obligation the federal government has to maintain its inland waterways; and

WHEREAS, an interstate compact may allow businesses and entities with the most interest in the promotion of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System to participate in funding alternatives; and

WHEREAS, the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System provides a benefit to Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas by providing a cost-effective and environmentally friendly way to transport goods at a fraction of the cost of overland transportation,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the House of Representatives and the Senate request the Arkansas congressional delegation to study the creation of an interstate compact for commerce related to the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System that allows for private, state, and federal cooperation in the repair and improvement of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System and promotes the economic growth of the states that benefit from and participate in the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, the Chief Clerk of the House shall mail a copy of this resolution to the following:

- (1) Each member of the Arkansas congressional delegation;
- (2) The Governors of Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas;
- (3) The Speakers of the Houses of Representatives of Oklahoma,

Missouri, Kansas, and Texas; and

(4) The Presidents Pro Tempore of the Senates of Oklahoma,  
Missouri, Kansas, and Texas.