



HR0619

LRB095 12798 CMK 38185 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The beaches of Lake Michigan provide a significant source of tourism income for the State of Illinois and other states bordering the Lake; and

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WHEREAS, The British Petroleum oil refinery in Whiting, Indiana is planning an expansion that would increase the refinery's discharges into the Lake significantly, including 54% more ammonia and 35% more sludge on a daily basis; and

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WHEREAS, The total amount of ammonia that British Petroleum will be discharging into the Lake on a daily basis is 1,584 pounds and the total amount of sludge that British Petroleum will be discharging into the Lake on a daily basis is 4,925 pounds; and

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WHEREAS, Ammonia promotes algae blooms that can kill fish and trigger beach closings on the Lake; and

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WHEREAS, The sludge that will be discharged into the Lake by British Petroleum is full of concentrated heavy metals, including mercury; and

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WHEREAS, Last year, 81% of Illinois beaches were declared unsafe due to algae and other pollution problems; therefore, be

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1 it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
4 strongly urge the United States Environmental Protection  
5 Agency and the Illinois delegation to the United States  
6 Congress to block the permit allowing British Petroleum to  
7 increase ammonia and sludge discharges into Lake Michigan; and  
8 be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
10 delivered to each member of the Illinois delegation to the  
11 United States Congress, to the administrator of the United  
12 States Environmental Protection Agency, Stephen L. Johnson,  
13 and to the Great Lakes National Program Manager for the United  
14 States Environmental Protection Agency, Mary A. Gade.