

February 14, 1951.
Passed on File.

S. J. R. 4
By BEKMAN, BATESON,
DOUD, HATTERY.

Passed Senate, Date.....
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Passed House, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Approved

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

A JOINT RESOLUTION creating a special committee to investigate and report on the number of acres of land in Iowa that have been subjected to strip mining, the number of acres of land in Iowa subject, in the future, to strip mining, the various industries engaged in that type of operation and the acreage used annually by each, the extent of damage done to lands by strip mining, the extent to which land that has been stripped is being taxed, the effect on the taxability of such lands, the necessity, if any, of regulating strip mining, and, if regulation is found desirable, the aspects and manner of regulation which should be adopted.

WHEREAS, disturbance of land surfaces occur in the strip mining of coal and other minerals; and

WHEREAS, said operation appears to totally destroy forever the use and fertility of the land surfaces so disturbed; and

WHEREAS, the public would be penalized in event said land surfaces were abandoned and taxes failed to be paid thereon; and

WHEREAS, it appears to be in the public interests that some provision be made by law to remedy the situation, if one exists,

Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

- 1 Section 1. A special committee of six (6) members is
- 2 hereby created. Said committee shall consist of two (2)
- 3 members of the 54th General Assembly to be appointed by the

4 President of the Senate, two (2) members of the House of
5 Representatives of the 54th General Assembly to be appointed
6 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and two (2)
7 citizens of the State of Iowa, engaged in the strip mining
8 industry, to be appointed by the Governor. Any vacancy in the
9 membership of the committee shall be filled by appointment
10 in the same manner, by the same official, and from the same
11 group as the original appointment. The committee shall choose
12 a chairman from its members and shall adopt rules for the
13 conduct of its proceedings.

1 Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the committee to
2 make a comprehensive study of the strip mining industry in the
3 State of Iowa, determine the number of acres of land in Iowa
4 that have been subjected to strip mining, determine the number
5 of acres of land in Iowa that will be subjected to strip mining
6 within the reasonable future, determine the various industries
7 engaged in that type of operation and the acreage used annually
8 by each, the extent of damage done to lands by strip mining, the
9 effect on the taxability of such lands, the extent to which
10 land that has been stripped is being taxed, the necessity, if
11 any, of regulating strip mining, and, if regulation is found
12 desirable, the aspects and manner of regulation which should
13 be adopted.

1 Sec. 3. The Committee shall have the cooperation of the
2 Attorney General and his staff in the performance of the
3 duties herein imposed, and is authorized to call upon any

4 department of the state government in obtaining information
5 deemed useful to the committee.

1 Sec. 4. The committee shall confer with public officials
2 and private individuals to the end that committee members
3 may fully acquaint themselves with the problems of the strip
4 mining industry, and may receive and consider the recommendations
5 of such persons.

1 Sec. 5. The committee shall enter into its duties as
2 soon as the membership has been appointed. It shall make
3 a report, including drafts of proposed bills, to the Governor
4 on or before November 15, 1952. Upon the making of its said
5 report to the Governor, the committee shall stand discharged
6 of its duties hereunder. The Governor shall cause to be
7 printed the necessary number of copies of said report and
8 shall mail copies of said printed report to the elected members
9 of the 55th General Assembly on or before December 15, 1952.

1 Sec. 6. The executive council shall provide the committee
2 with a suitable office and with necessary office supplies and
3 equipment for the conduct of its business.

1 Sec. 7. Legislative members of the committee shall
2 receive as compensation and for actual and necessary expenses
3 incurred by them in the discharge of their duties such amounts
4 as the 55th General Assembly may allow. Members of the committee
5 appointed by the Governor shall receive no compensation.

1 Sec. 8. This Joint Resolution being deemed of
2 immediate importance shall be in full force and effect from

3 and after publication in the Ottumwa Daily Courier, a
4 newspaper published at Ottumwa, Iowa, and the Nevada Evening
5 Journal, a newspaper published at Nevada, Iowa.