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Title: Effects of Energy Pipelines and Fossil Fuel Waste on the Great Lakes
Introduced by: Gunjan Malhotra, MD, for the Wayne County Delegation
Original Author: Gunjan Malhotra, MD, Kaitlyn Dobesh, Lauren Newhouse, and Shannon Paquette
Referred to: Reference Committee D
House Action: **AMEND**

Whereas, the Great Lakes contain 84 percent of North America’s surface fresh water¹, and

Whereas, the Kalamazoo River oil spill was the largest inland oil spill in US history and cost \$1.2 billion in clean-up efforts², and

Whereas, a Magellan Midstream Partners’ pipeline running through multiple Midwestern states recently leaked 138,000 gallons of diesel fuel in January 2017³, and

Whereas, studies have shown that 720 miles of shoreline are potentially vulnerable to Straits of Mackinac oil spills via the currently placed Line 5 pipeline⁴, and

Whereas, oil spills in the Great Lakes raise concerns about potential environmental impacts, damage to natural resources, such as clean drinking water, and economic damage to both public and private sector interests⁴, and

Whereas, the 115th Congress passed a resolution to overturn the Stream Protection Rule, and H.R. 861 was introduced to the House of Representatives to terminate the Environmental Protection Agency^{5,6}, and

Whereas, this support of environmental deregulation by legislatures puts the Great Lakes at risk of pollution and contamination, which endangers the health of our patients and communities; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS support rigorous maintenance and regulation of current oil/oil byproduct and natural gas pipelines, as well as the shutdown of pipelines that do not meet regulatory standards or pose imminent risk of contaminating the Great Lakes; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS oppose the disposal of waste that is a byproduct of fossil fuel transport and/or usage into our water systems.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Air and Water Pollution

Environmental Health Issues

Reasonable and scientific study should be directed toward the sensible control of the major problems of air and water pollution, whether it is the dusts and wastes of industry, the products of combustion of gasoline or oil (automobiles), the combustion products of home heating and burning equipment, or of smoking tobacco. (Prior to 1990)

– Edited 1998

Policy Statement of Environmental Pollution

MSMS supports efforts to improve environmental health. MSMS supports all agencies charged with the control of environmental pollution. (Prior to 1990)

– Edited 1998

– Reaffirmed (Res35-05A)

¹ Environmental protection Agency. Great lakes facts and Figures. <https://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/great-lakes-facts-and-figures>. Accessed February 6, 2017.

² Ellison, Garret. New price tag for Kalamazoo River oil spill cleanup: Enbridge says \$1.21 billion. http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/11/2010_oil_spill_cost_enbridge_1.html November 5, 2014. Accessed January 22, 2017.

³ Hersher R. 'It's a Big One': Iowa Pipeline Leaks Nearly 140, 000 Gallons of Diesel. <http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/01/26/511636325/its-a-big-one-iowa-pipeline-leaks-nearly-140-000-gallons-of-diesel>. January 26, 2017. Accessed February 6, 2017.

⁴ Graham Sustainability Institute. Worst Case Oil Spill Straits of Mackinac. <http://graham.umich.edu/water/project/mackinac-oil-spill>. March, 2016. Accessed February 6, 2017.

⁵ Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of the Interior known as the Stream Protection Rule, H.J.Res.38, 115th Congress. (2017).

⁶ To terminate the Environmental Protection Agency, H.R.861, 115th Congress. (2017).