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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 95, 90TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 12, 1967

Re: S. Res. 68 "To Establish a Select Senate Committee
on Technology and the Human Environment"

Senate Resolution 68 which was introduced earlier this year in the Senate, would establish a Select Senate Committee on Technology and the Human Environment. The purpose of this legislation would be to provide the Senate with a special committee for inquiring into the broad impact of science and technology on man's thinking, health, work, living habits, and individual security over the next fifty years.

The Select Committee would be—and this is to be emphasized—a study committee concerned with obtaining information about man's future, and evaluating that information in the light of technological benefits to be derived, and hazards to be encountered. It would be a forum where scientists and legislators can come together and discuss the critical environmental problems to be faced in the years ahead, and what science and government working together must do to meet these problems.

Hearings were completed on the resolution in April, and the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations, to which the resolution was referred, recently reported it favorably to the full Committee on Government Operations of the Senate.

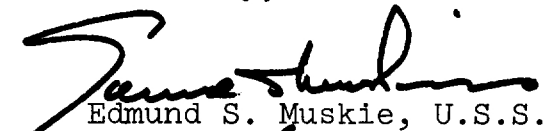
We feel that the establishment of such a Select Committee would make an immeasurable contribution by developing a closer relationship between the Senate and the scientific and technological community in a joint effort to solve critical environmental problems. In addition, we feel

that a study group of this nature would provide a very useful source of information and recommendations for Congress as a whole, for the Executive Branch, for academic institutions and scholars, and for the public at large, as we face the twenty-first century.

Because of your special interest in science and technology, we thought you would be interested in learning that the resolution is now moving toward a very important stage in its Senate consideration. A number of scientists have made comments on the proposal and have helped us in shaping the legislation.

We would appreciate any comments or suggestions which you may wish to express in connection with this legislation.

Sincerely,


Edmund S. Muskie, U.S.S.


Howard H. Baker, Jr., U.S.S.