

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 676

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to urge the Tennessee Valley Authority to reject a sunset provision that would require the removal of all floating homes from Tennessee Valley Authority lakes.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has a rich, profitable, and successful history of floating homes on its Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) lakes; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee have for decades utilized such non-navigable/floating homes for lodging, recreation, and the enjoyment of Tennessee's natural wonders; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley Authority has allowed non-navigable/floating homes to proliferate through open non-enforcement of its regulations for nearly four decades; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Tennessee and neighboring states have purchased and invested substantial assets into non-navigable/floating homes in Tennessee on TVA lakes without knowing that TVA would cause such homes to be removed, and thus rendered worthless, without just compensation; and

WHEREAS, TVA allowed purchasers of existing non-navigable/floating homes to believe that their investments were safe due to its open non-enforcement of its regulations for nearly four decades, thus permitting marina owners to manage non-navigable/floating homes in their harbors, and allowing an economy to flourish in which non-navigable/floating home owners paid fees and dues to marina owners, and non-navigable/floating homes were bought and sold on the open market; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, TVA proposed a sunset provision that would require all non-navigable/floating homes to be removed from TVA lakes within twenty years; and

WHEREAS, the non-navigable/floating home owners support TVA's new proposed environmental and safety regulations, as detailed in TVA EIS option B1, that would alleviate TVA's concerns without requiring removal of floating homes; and

WHEREAS, TVA has taken the most aggressive step of recommending a sunset provision without first allowing a period of time to pass in which the new environmental and safety provisions have been in effect to determine if the new provisions sufficiently alleviate TVA's concerns; and

WHEREAS, non-navigable/floating homes are essential to the economic stability of Tennessee's marinas, which in turn are essential to the economy of the regions surrounding TVA lakes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby urge the Tennessee Valley Authority to reject a sunset provision that would require all non-navigable/floating homes to be removed from TVA lakes at some point in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for transmittal to the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.