

March 30, 1950

Honorable James J. Murphy, M. D.,
Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Murphy:

I am pleased to respond to your letter of March 14 by writing a letter on the subject to Mr. Crosser, as you suggested. A copy of this letter is enclosed for such use as it may be to you.

I should be reluctant to attend a hearing on the Joint Resolution, because of the demands made on my time otherwise during the next several months. On the other hand, if I should find out that anything I might say would be of decisive importance to the fate of the Resolution, I would not hesitate to appear. Actually, I cannot imagine a situation in which such would be the case, so that this is merely an expression of my feeling as to the importance of the matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Kehoe, M. D.

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Enc.

JAMES J. MURPHY
16TH DIST., NEW YORK
(STATEN ISLAND AND
LOWER WEST MANHATTAN)

COMMITTEE:
MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

1608 NEW HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

EVAN TAYLOR
LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT
ALICE MCADAMS GOMEZ
SECRETARY

STATEN ISLAND OFFICE
RITA MCCARTHY
SECRETARY

March 14, 1950

Dr. Robert A. Kehoe, Director
Kettering Laboratory
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Doctor:

The United States Public Health authorities have informed me that you are deeply interested in the elimination of air pollution to which objective you have contributed much effort. I was also advised that you possess abundant information on this subject that would be helpful in attacking the problem through legislation.

I have introduced the enclosed House Joint Resolution 416, which would authorize an appropriation of \$500,000 to provide for the first of a three-year nation-wide survey for the elimination of smog or air pollution. This Federal legislation seems essential because the various local authorities are not equipped to conduct surveys of such magnitude as to lead to a solution of this problem.

When a hearing date is announced by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to which the resolution has been referred, I would be grateful if you could find time to attend, or to communicate your opinion of the measure to the Honorable Robert Crosser, M. C., the House Committee Chairman.

If you feel favorably inclined toward this legislation, I would appreciate a letter of support to Chairman Crosser, in the meantime, urging an early hearing so that the measure can be reported to the House soon enough to advance it to final passage by Congress during the current session. All pending legislation dies with the final adjournment this year. If no action is taken during the current session, the resolution will have to be introduced anew in the next 82nd Congress, and the work done all over again.

Assuring you of my warm appreciation of any aid you can render in the advancement of H. J. Res 416, I am

Sincerely yours,

James J. Murphy

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81ST CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 416

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 8, 1950

Mr. MURPHY introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

JOINT RESOLUTION

To provide for research into the health hazards of air pollution, and for other purposes.

Whereas, as the result of a year-long investigation in Donora, Pennsylvania, disclosing that during that year twenty persons died and six thousand persons became ill from causes attributable to air pollution, it has been determined that air pollution can cause fatalities and serious, acute, and disabling disease; and

Whereas, since the publication of the Donora report, twenty-five cities and areas of the Nation have become sufficiently concerned with their air-pollution problem to file urgent petitions asking the Public Health Service to make lengthy studies toward helping reduce air contamination; and

Whereas urgent basic research is needed to determine the precise immediate and long-range effect of air pollution

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the public health and to discover more and better means of controlling air pollution; and

Whereas the people in the industrial areas of the entire country would benefit from knowledge derived from such research; and

Whereas a maximum amount of cooperation between the Federal, State, and local governments will be necessary to attain the ultimate goal of complete safety from air pollution for all our people: Therefore be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That (a) the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service
4 is authorized and directed to carry out a program of inves-
5 tigation and research into the health hazards of air pollution.
6 Such program shall be designed to determine the long-range
7 and chronic, as well as the acute, effects of air pollution and
8 to discover specific engineering preventive and control meas-
9 ures for eliminating the dangers of air pollution. Such pro-
10 gram of investigation and research shall be completed within
11 three years after funds are first made available therefor, and
12 a final report of the results thereof shall be made to Congress.
13 (b) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated to
14 carry out such program during the first year it is in operation
15 the sum of \$500,000, and such sums for subsequent years as
16 may be necessary to complete such program.

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By Mr. MURPHY

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