

**ORIGINAL HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 2**

**A JOINT MEMORIAL, memorializing the Congress of the United States of America with reference to the opposition of the people of the State of Wyoming to any form of Federal, regional or watershed rules or regulations set up either by legislative act or executive order, in which the States involved would have no real voice in administration thereof.**

**WHEREAS, any form of Federal, regional or watershed authority, however disguised, would supercede and nullify existing State laws under which water users have acquired water rights and by which these rights have been protected and administered, and**

**WHEREAS, existing water rights established under Wyoming State Law would be subject to condemnation proceedings under provisions of Acts creating such Federal Authority, and**

**WHEREAS, the citizens of Wyoming would have no voice in the selection of the directors of the Federal Authority, who would have unlimited control over the development of their land and water resources, and**

**WHEREAS, under a Federal Authority, the only voice permitted the people of the State of Wyoming and their local and State officials would be of an "advisory" nature, and**

**WHEREAS, such Federal legislation would place exclusive jurisdiction over water litigation involving the Federal Authority in the Federal Courts, and**

**WHEREAS, such Federal Authority would tend to create a federal power monopoly, and**

**WHEREAS, such Federal legislation would to a large extent reduce the States to mere geographical entities, replacing the present powers of local and State governments with a super-state in which the final control is vested in the Federal government, and**

**WHEREAS, such Federal legislation would add nothing to the program of development of land and water resources which is not already available through existing State and Federal agencies, except better co-ordination, which could be accomplished through more democratic means;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Fifth Legislature of the State of Wyoming, the Senate of such Legislature concurring, that the President and Congress of the United States of America, be and they are hereby memorialized to consider against any proposed legislation or executive order setting up any form of Federal, regional or watershed authority, however disguised, the strong, unequivocal and unalterable opposition of the people of the State of Wyoming to any such proposition and their determination to resist by every device at their command and such usurpation of the rights, laws, customs, powers, and sovereignty of their local and State governments.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that certified copies hereof be promptly transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of said Congress, United States Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney, United States Senator Gale W. McGee, and Representative in Congress E. Keith Thomson, to the Secretary of the Interior, the Commissioner of Reclamation and to the governors and legislatures of the following states:

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah and Washington.

**Approved February 26, 1959.**