

Fusion Memorials Passed In 4 States, Introduced In 12 More

U.S. Labor Party-initiated memorial resolutions calling on the U.S. Congress to vastly increase the funding for the development of fusion energy and basic scientific research have been introduced in 14 states legislatures since January, 1977. Four states, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania and Colorado have overwhelmingly passed these fusion memorials and transmitted them to Congress. This week votes are expected in Washington State and Texas and in New Jersey by the third week of June.

The following is a complete listing of the states, the status of memorial resolutions and groups which have supported the bill either officially or as a strong tendency among the group's members.

MARYLAND — HJR 80 passed House of Delegates 108-3, and Senate unanimously. Signed by Lt. Gov. Blair Lee on May 20, 1977 and transmitted to the President and every member of the Maryland delegation, and entered into Congressional Record.

Supported by the Bethesda Chamber of Commerce, received favorably by 12 Baltimore union executive boards, supported by Harrison Associates, Hittman Industries and Eastern Shore Development interests

DELAWARE — SCR 24 demands restoration of Carter budget cuts in fusion and the fast breeder introduced by Sen. Berndt (R); passed the Senate and the House by a 31-3 vote on April 21. Transmitted to Congress and every member of the Delaware delegation.

Supported by engineering layers at Dupont, scientific layers at U. of Delaware and covered by Dupont-influenced newspapers.

PENNSYLVANIA — Sponsored by Rep. Ivan Itkin (D-Pgh), House Resolution 54 passed the Pennsylvania House of Representatives 177-3 April 26. The bill condemns the Carter cuts in funding for fusion and fast breeder. The House Resolution was directly transmitted to the President and Pennsylvania delegations.

The fast breeder was supported by Democrat Congressmen Gavdos and Dent, and appeared to have support from Westinghouse-linked spokesmen. The Pennsylvania United Steel Workers of America introduced a nearly verbatim replica of HR 54 into the AFL-CIO national convention.

COLORADO — Introduced by Rep. M. Hillsmeier (R), the bill passed the House of Representatives 52-8 May 20, and the Senate 28-4 May 27. Thirteen legislators co-sponsored it in the House and 14 in the Senate.

The Memorial has been supported by Independent oilmen and leading Republicans as well as scientific layers.

WASHINGTON STATE — Introduced by a coalition of Republican and Democratic Senators, the resolution passed the Washington Senate unanimously in March. Specified SJM 102, it has been introduced into the House of Representatives by Rep. Oliver and is now before the House Energy Committee, where a vote is being blocked by Rep. King Lysam, a Democratic environmentalist. If he fails to accede to constituent pressure, members of the House and Senate will bring the resolution out on the floor before the session adjourns.

Supported by traditional Democrats, Republicans, statewide Building Trades, and in general by Boing-linked layers, such as its Senate sponsors.

OREGON — HJM 5 was introduced by nine Democrats and six Republicans. It passed the House Economic and Trade Committee in late April and is now stalled in a second committee in the Oregon House.

HJM 5 was officially endorsed by the Oregon State AFL-CIO in its paper in February. Advanced scientific layers also supported it.

NEW JERSEY — Introduced by Senator Dodd (D-Middlesex) and Assemblyman Markert (R-Bergen), the resolution was referred to Energy Committees in both houses where it is expected to be voted by the third week of June.

Building Trades of Middlesex County took a vote to inform Congressmen Patten and Hollenbeck that this fusion memorial should be introduced as national legislation. The Middlesex Industry Commission expressed support, the Chamber of Commerce of Edison invited an FEF spokesman, as did the Mercer County Building Trades, and GOP clubs in Bergen, Middlesex and Morris Counties.

NEW YORK — Senator Edwyn Mason (R-Kingston) introduced a fusion memorial to the Senate on May 18, where it was referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

The resolution is supported by conservatives around the state, patriotic groups also like the Labor Party opposed to the decriminalization of drugs, and public utilities corporations.

ILLINOIS — Introduced by three Republicans and one Democrat to the House where it passed 138-1. Bill's introduction to the Senate now pending.

Supported by Republicans around the state, leading representatives of industry and scientific layers.

WISCONSIN — Assemblyman George Klicka introduced AJR 44 into the Assembly with 11 Republican and 5 Democratic co-sponsors. Hearings are pending before the House Environmental Protection Committee.

Support is widespread throughout the state Conservative Caucus and the bill was well received by the Wisconsin Agribusiness Council and the Wisconsin Industry and Commerce Association.

MICHIGAN — Fusion legislation has been introduced by Rep. Wilbur Brotherton (R) and Tom Anderson (D), and a dozen co-sponsors. Hearings pending before the House Policy Committee, whose Chairman is a Carter Democrat.

The Conservative Caucus in the 2, 14 and 16 C.D. favor the resolution, as well as representatives from auto, utilities industries, and the State AFL-CIO.

TEXAS — Senate Concurrent Resolution 103 was introduced by Senator Walter Mongdon (R) on May 16, and has been referred to the Senate Natural Resources Committee. The bill calls for Congress to "promote the development of new energy sources, such as ...nuclear fission and fusion..."

Independent oil and industrial layers, scientific layers.

VERMONT — Introduced by state senator Melvin Mandigo, Chairman of the Senate Energy Committee. Although the legislature has adjourned for the year, hearings are scheduled before this committee in July, and the bill will be on the agenda of the next session.

Conservative Caucus layers, utilities, and anti-environmentalists.

CONNECTICUT — Senate Resolution 31 introduced by Sen. Bozzuto was not reported out by the House Government Administration and Policy Committee under the control of liberal Democrats.

Industrialists around the state, including the Connecticut Industrial Associations and also the Connecticut Building Trades strongly support nuclear energy. An FEF spokesman was invited to address a union-industry demonstration against environmentalist crippling of industry recently.