

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL AND ECOLOGY TO PERSUADE THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO REVIEW EVERY POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO INCINERATION FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE HAZARDOUS WASTE STORED AT THE VERTAC SITE IN JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS, it was reported on Wednesday, January 28, 1987 that the Vertac Chemical Corporation is no longer financially able to manage the hazardous waste stored at its Jacksonville site; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 28,000 barrels of hazardous waste stored at the Vertac site in Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the Federal Environmental Protection Agency will assume responsibility for the site; and

WHEREAS, incineration has not yet been proven to be a safe method of disposal of the hazardous waste; and

WHEREAS, the Vertac Chemical site in Jacksonville is the most imminently serious public health problem due to hazardous waste in this State today; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that action needs to be taken quickly in order to protect the citizens of this State from a disaster at the Vertac site,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

That the Governor and the Department of Pollution Control and Ecology make every effort to persuade the Federal Environmental Protection Agency to not approve the incineration of the hazardous waste at the Vertac site in Jacksonville unless and until they have had an opportunity to analyze each and every alternative method of disposal now available or projected to become available in the foreseeable future, and thereby identify a method of disposal that will not present a danger of injury to the population as a result of the destruction method utilized.