
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8005

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Hale, Loveland, Rasmussen, Bauer, Haugen, Oke, Horn, Morton and Deccio

Read first time 01/29/97.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO HAZEL R. O'LEARY, THE
5 SECRETARY OF ENERGY:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
8 represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, The Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) is the nation's most
10 advanced test reactor; and

11 WHEREAS, Numerous independent studies have suggested that the
12 facility could one day be used to produce cancer-curing medical
13 isotopes; and

14 WHEREAS, The facility has also been considered by the Department of
15 Energy (DOE) for short-term production of tritium for our nation's
16 defense needs; and

17 WHEREAS, Utilizing the FFTF for this purpose could help postpone
18 construction of more expensive options for tritium production, thus
19 freeing federal dollars for environmental purposes during DOE's "Ten
20 Year Cleanup Plan"; and

1 WHEREAS, This would protect Hanford clean up from budget pressures
2 during this time frame and ensure that the federal government fulfills
3 its responsibilities under the Tri-Party Agreement; and

4 WHEREAS, Private sector involvement in the FFTF project could
5 further reduce federal expenditures needed for tritium production; and

6 WHEREAS, DOE and President William J. Clinton have announced their
7 decision to keep the FFTF on standby for potential use for medical and
8 tritium purposes; and

9 WHEREAS, This decision could lead to the development of a major
10 cancer treatment center in Washington State; and

11 WHEREAS, Sixty-nine nationally recognized cancer researchers have
12 expressed their strong support for preserving the FFTF, and have argued
13 that they would find it "unconscionable to shut down the FFTF without
14 a full review of its potential for future operation, including isotope
15 production";

16 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
17 States Congress and executive agencies approve and endorse the plan to
18 fully and fairly evaluate the FFTF for use in meeting critical national
19 needs, and urge that the long-term best interests of clean-up
20 activities at Hanford and cancer research be given top priority by DOE
21 in arriving at its decision.

22 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
23 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
24 United States, Hazel R. O'Leary, the Secretary of Energy, the President
25 of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
26 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
27 Washington.

--- END ---