

Association of State Dam Safety Officials

Resolution No. 5-91

Endorsement of Federal Dam Safety Legislation

WHEREAS, dams are an essential part of the national infrastructure and dam safety is a vital public concern; and

WHEREAS, dams fail from time to time with catastrophic results causing enormous loss of life, injury, destruction of property, and economic and social disruption; and

WHEREAS, an expertly staffed and adequately financed dam safety hazard reduction program, based on federal, state and local planning; decision making; and, contributions would reduce the risk of such loss, destruction and disruption from dam failures; and

WHEREAS, it was the recognition of Congress, through the enactment of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, P.L 99662, Title XII (Dam Safety Act), that dam failures can be reduced with the development and implementation of dam safety hazard reduction measures through cooperative and supportive efforts involving federal and state dam safety programs; and

WHEREAS, P.L 99-662, Title XII (Dam Safety Act) has only been partially implemented with only the update of the National Inventory of Dams being funded and is due to expire in 1992; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the national interest and support for federal dam safety legislation continue in order to 1) assist and build state dam safety programs through a cost-sharing program, 2) train state dam safety inspectors, 3) research and develop improved inspection techniques, and 4) continue to update the National Dam Inventory;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO), meeting in National Conference in San Diego, California this 1st day of October, 1991, that ASDSO unanimously urges the introduction of legislation to authorize and make appropriations adequate to meet these goals and the passage of such legislation by the Congress and approval by the President of the United States,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a National Dam Safety Program be created which would consolidate into a single federal agency the statutory authority to discharge all Federal responsibilities for national dam safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be furnished to all members of Congress and to the President.

Adopted: October 1, 1991

Dan R. Lawrence, ASDSO President