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UA3/3/1 Memo Re: Environmental Commission

David Porter

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May 15, 1970

TO: FACULTY MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS
FROM: DAVID PORTER, VICE PRESIDENT
SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Enclosed is a copy of Associated Students Congress Bill No. 3 entitled "Environmental Commission". The bill passed in a regular session of Congress yesterday afternoon.

The enclosed copy of the bill and the enclosed memorandum to Congress members explain various aspects of the bill. If I can further explain or answer questions concerning the bill, please call me at 745-4354 or 781-2884.

It is my hope that students will take advantage of the function the bill represents. With direction by interested faculty members and students, the Environmental Commission can serve as a positive force in understanding and possibly solving increasing problems of our environment which affect us and threaten future generations.

Sincerely,

David Porter
Vice President
Associated Students

745-4354

Associated Students
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, Kentucky
May 11, 1970

TO: ASSOCIATED STUDENTS CONGRESS MEN
FROM: DAVID PORTER, A.S. VICE PRESIDENT
SUBJECT: CONGRESS BILL NO. 3--ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Enclosed is a copy of Bill No. 3 that will be introduced in Congress on May 14. I have some of my ideas concerning the bill. I am communicating them to you so you may know of the background of the proposed bill.

Design. The Environmental Commission Bill is designed to provide the framework for and to establish a means of recognizing, directing to proper agencies, and moving to solve problems of our environment, ecology, health, pollution, and general welfare of students at Western.

Origin. The concept of the bill came as a direct result of the recent three-day Environmental Teach-In. Too often we express concentrated enthusiasm and provide thrust for an issue when it is "the big story in the news". Then when the fad of the issue dies down we fail to continue pursuance of the problem which is the basis of the issue. With these thoughts in mind, I felt a need to establish a permanent mode to generate interest and possible solutions to the still rampant and unsolved problem of our environment.

Comments on Membership. Students constitute the majority of the committee. The reason for having the Vice President of Associated Students as a standing member of the committee is to insure stability of the commission as far as organization and function are concerned. A body without a member who is directly responsible to campus citizens could easily cease to exist and only become a sheet in the statute book. In addition, the Vice President, by A.S. constitutional authority, would be able to utilize his services in publicity and activities for the benefit of the commission.

The balance of the commission would be elected by the Executive Committee of Associated Students. Hopefully administrative members would include the Director of the Physical Plant or other officials working in departments related to services within the scope of the commission.

As for faculty members, as demonstrated in the Teach-In, many well-qualified and interested faculty members are available from practically every academic discipline or program.

I urge you to consider the still-present problem of our environment and the responsibility each of us has for contributing to solutions of the problem. The potential of a commission such as this one.

Please contact me for further discussion or if I could answer any questions that you might have.

Respectfully submitted,

David Porter
David Porter, A.S. Vice President

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS CONGRESS BILL NUMBER (3)

Author - David Porter
Title - Environmental Commission
Date - May 14, 1970

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION: Functions, members, appointment, qualifications, terms.

There is hereby created in the Associated Students an Environmental Commission composed of nine (9) members of which shall be five (5) students, two (2) faculty members, and two (2) administrators.

The commission shall be a vigil commission alerting proper university offices and city, state, or federal agencies to problems of pollution, environment, health, or welfare of citizens of the university community. The commission shall have the authority to organize and to promote informational sessions, symposiums, or any activities necessary to facilitate the function of the commission. The commission shall prepare an annual report of its activities and submit the report to the Congress of the Associated Students before the end of each academic year.

The Vice President of Associated Students shall be a standing member of the commission. Other members shall be appointed for one year terms. Members may serve consecutive terms. The commission shall elect its chairman.