WHEREAS, In virtue of their inherent sovereignty, the States of the Union, old and new alike, own the waters of the non-navigable streams within their borders and have authority to establish for themselves such rules of property as they may deem expedient with respect to such waters; and

WHEREAS, the Executive branch of the Government of the United States asserts that such waters are now and since the acquisition of the territory in which such streams occur have been owned by the United States; that the United States owns the right of use of the waters in and on its public lands within the states, just as it owns the lands themselves; that the rights of the states in such waters are confined exclusively to such water rights as have been specifically granted to them or their citizens by the United States under the laws of Congress, and that the states have no other title or interest in the waters of such streams and exercise no sovereign or other control thereover; and

WHEREAS, Such assertion of title to the waters of the states of the arid region is now being urged before the courts and is being generally followed as the fundamental law by the various departments of the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States, notwithstanding the protest of the states; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of any such doctrine would be destructive of the autonomy of the states and would deprive each of the western states of their sovereign control over that natural element necessary to their very existence, contrary to the law of the land and the fundamental
principles of our Federal Union;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Governors
and Representatives of the seven Colorado river states,
here assembled, do respectfully express their unanimous
disapproval of the doctrine so advanced by the Executive
Branch of the Government of the United States, and request
The President and The Attorney General to cause the assertion
of such doctrine and the urging of the same before the courts
to be discontinued, and that the Senators and Representatives in Congress of each of the states of the arid region
take appropriate measures to protect the autonomy of the
states and to prevent the establishment of the principles
complained of; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Governors, Attorneys
General, Interstate Stream Commissioners, and other officials
of the seven Colorado river states take such united action
as may be necessary or expedient to prevent the establish-
ment of such a doctrine and to protect the sovereignty of
the states.
WHEREAS, The Executive Branch of the Government of the United States since the year 1914, has asserted and urged before the courts that the United States, and not the states, owns, controls and may dispose of the waters of the non-navigable streams in the states of the arid region regardless of the will of the states, and that such waters always have been and now are wholly removed from the control of the states, except as granted by the United States to the states and the individual water users under acts of Congress; and

WHEREAS, nearly all of the streams in the arid west are not navigable and the control and use of the waters of such streams within each of the states is necessary to the very existence of the states and their citizens and that such waters are owned and controlled by the states in virtue of their inherent sovereignty, and the establishment of a doctrine asserted by the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States would destroy the autonomy of the states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Governors and Representatives of the seven Colorado river states, here assembled, do respectfully express their unanimous disapproval of the doctrine so advanced by the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States, and request The President and The Attorney General to cause the assertion of such doctrine and the urging of the same before the courts to be discontinued, and that the Senators and Representatives in Congress of each of the states of the arid region take appropriate measures to protect the autonomy of the states and to prevent the establishment of the principles complained of; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Governors, Attorneys General, Interstate Stream Commissioners, and other officials of the seven Colorado river states take such united action as may be necessary or expedient to prevent the establishment of such doctrine and to protect the sovereignty of the states.
WHEREAS, since the year 1914 the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States has asserted and sought to have established by decisions of the courts, the doctrine that the United States, and not the states, own, control and may dispose of the unappropriated waters of the non-navigable streams in the western states, according to laws enacted by Congress, regardless of the will of the states, and that such waters are not owned by the states and are immune from their constitutions and laws and are wholly removed from state control; and

WHEREAS, such waters are owned and controlled by the States in virtue of their inherent sovereignty and the use thereof is necessary to the very existence of the states in which such streams occur and the establishment of the doctrine so asserted would be destructive of the autonomy of the states and their control over that natural element necessary to their very existence and self-preservation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Governors and Representatives of the seven Colorado river states, here assembled, do respectfully express their unanimous disapproval of the doctrine so advanced by the Executive Branch of the Government of the United States, and request The President and The Attorney General to cause the assertion of such doctrine and the urging of the same before the courts to be discontinued, and that the Senators and Representatives in Congress of each of the states of the arid region take appropriate measures to protect the autonomy of the states and to prevent the establishment of the principles complained of; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Governors, Attorneys General, Interstate Stream Commissioners, and other officials of the seven Colorado river states take such united action as may be necessary or expedient to prevent the establishment of such doctrine and to protect the sovereignty of the states.