

SENATE RESOLUTION 7

(By Senators Oliverio and Clements)

[Introduced January 19, 2026]

1 Proposing approval of United States H.R. 5966, Ohio River Restoration Program Act, to bring
2 clean water, enhanced fish and aquatic wildlife, economic benefits, and expanded
3 recreation opportunities to West Virginia.

4 Whereas, The Ohio River is a major river in the United States, with its watershed spanning
5 15 states and serving 30 million people; and

6 Whereas, The Ohio River is 981 miles long, with 277 miles (28.2 percent) of the Ohio River
7 abutting West Virginia; and

8 Whereas, West Virginia owns that portion of the Ohio River abutting West Virginia up to the
9 low water mark on the Ohio side of the river; and

10 Whereas, The Ohio River drains approximately 75 percent (18,217 square miles) of the
11 total area of West Virginia; and

12 Whereas, The Ohio River is formed by the convergence of the Monongahela River that
13 rises in West Virginia; and

14 Whereas, West Virginia is an important Ohio River state; and

15 Whereas, The Ohio River provides transportation and other benefits to West Virginia;
16 however, the Ohio River is one of the most polluted rivers and needs help to restore the Ohio
17 River; and

18 Whereas, H.R. 5966 has been filed in the United States House of Representatives with
19 wide bipartisan support; and

20 Whereas, H.R. 5966 creates the Ohio River Basin Restoration Program to improve water

1 quality, increase flood resiliency including restoration of natural systems, protect and restore fish
2 and wildlife habitat, prevent and control invasive aquatic species, remediate toxic substances,
3 improve public access and recreation, and improve public outreach and education in the Ohio
4 River basin; and

5 Whereas, West Virginians will benefit from an improved Ohio River, including drinking
6 water, economic benefits to communities, infrastructure investments, and enhanced recreational
7 opportunities; therefore, be it

8 *Resolved by the Senate:*

9 That the Senate hereby proposes approval of United States H.R. 5966, Ohio River
10 Restoration Program Act, to bring clean water, enhanced fish and aquatic wildlife, economic
11 benefits, and expanded recreation opportunities to West Virginia; and, be it

12 *Further Resolved*, That the Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to
13 West Virginia's congressional delegation.