May 3, 1973

Statement of William Bowe on Behalf of the Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources Hearings on HB 494 - May 3, 1973

Gentlemen:

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The Metropolitan Housing and Planning Council supports the basic principles encompassed in H.B. 494, especially the provisions for lakefront planning and the creation of a shoreline zone. We believe that these basic principles can be more effectively accomplished if certain features of the bill are changed. Our basic criticisms of the bill deal with, the definition of shoreline zone, the two-year moratorium pending a commission plan, and commission power to amend or modify local plans.

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They said they, too, believed in a beautiful, pollution-free lake, but that a freeze on construction would cause economic loss to land owners and local governments.

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Removing guilt from divorce

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A bill for a modified no-fault divorce law based on legislation drafted by the Chicago Bar Assn. is now under study in an Illinois House committee, with hearings to be held during the summer. In our opinion, the bill (HB 477) is a common sense plan for stripping deceit from the legal process. It proposes "irreconcilable differences" as grounds for divorce when a husband and wife have lived apart for two years or more. But it also allows for the waiver of this two-year separation if both parties agree. "No fault" would not cancel out existing legal grounds for divorce. It would merely provide a much needed option.

So far. 14 states have adopted some form of no-fault divorce. But Illinois law still requires that one party assume all "guilt" for being the weak link in the marital chain. Therefore, splitting up a marriage has been traditionally a messy and painful exercise in hypocrisy. If one takes into account self-respect and decency along with the exchange of dollars and property, there are few winners. Often children are dragged into the process, pressured to choose sides because they feel they must. A law that does not demand adversary proceedings benefits them as much as, if not more than, it does the husband and wife.

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Honorable Robert D. Mann Mann & Rifken 22 West Madison Street Chicago, Illinois 60602

Re: Lake Michigan Bill of Rights

Dear Bob:

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Cordially,

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NJB/kr

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HOUSING AND PLANNING COUNCIL OF CHICAGO METROPOLITAN



Director

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June 1, 1973

Mr. William J. Bowe Roan & Grossman 120 South LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60603

Dear Bill:

Here at last is your reimbursement. Of course money can't compensate for commitment and your fine work in behalf of the lakefront and the community. It is deeply appreciated by the Council, and the General Counsel Committee, and we hope you found it an interesting experience.

<u>Cordially</u> yours, -12 Director

DLR:1h

Mr. William J. Bowe Roan & Grossman 120 South LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60603

Lakefront Committee Expense

Expenses incurred re

support of Jake Michigan Bill of Rights

\$70.00

Honorary Members Lea D. Taylor

Endorsed by the Chicago Association of Commerce, Subscriptions Investigating Committee