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STUDENT NOTES

The Expanding Scope of Air Pollution Abatement

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare estimates that sixty per cent of all Americans now live in areas of persistent air pollution.¹ Scientific evidence links the air pollution problem with increases in such health hazards as bronchitis, hypertension, lung cancer, emphysema, heart disease, circulatory ailments, and even the common cold.² We learn that the quality of the nation's air has deteriorated to such an extent that it now costs the United States some eleven billion dollars annually to rectify the damage done by airborne pollutants.³ The federal government has cited

¹ 25 CONG. Q. WEEKLY REP. 723 (May 5, 1967).

² *Hearings on S. 780 Before the Subcommittee on Air and Water Pollution of the Senate Committee on Public Works*, 90th Cong., 1st Sess., pt. 3, at 1119-1124 (1967).

³ Remarks by President Johnson upon signing the Clean Air Act Amendments and the Solid Waste Disposal Act, Oct. 20, 1965.