SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Introduced: 2/23/96
Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

Relating to the federal government’s failure to abide by the intent of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

WHEREAS the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), P.L. 96-487, was intended by its framers to fully settle the status of all federal land in Alaska and therefore provide much needed stability for the benefit of all businesses and citizens of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS two areas of extreme importance to Alaska in ANILCA were

(1) Title XI, which provided a mechanism to gain a right of access across Conservation System Units that were created as part of ANILCA; and

(2) Secs. 101d and 1326b of ANILCA which prohibited the creation of new Conservation System Units in Alaska; and

WHEREAS Title XI of ANILCA was specifically included to provide assured, reasonable, and timely access across the patchwork of federal Conservation System Units in Alaska but has been administered by the federal government in such a manner as to amount to no more than useless rhetoric; and
WHEREAS secs. 101d and 1326b of ANILCA were included to assure no further land withdrawals from multiple use from the federal land base in Alaska, but these provisions have also been ignored by the federal government since the passage of ANILCA; and

WHEREAS these two areas of extreme importance have been ignored by the federal government with the end result negatively affecting citizens and businesses in Alaska; and

WHEREAS Alaska has the ability to request land exchanges under secs. 103b and 1302h of ANILCA of land now known to contain high resource values that have been arbitrarily withdrawn from multiple use by ANILCA;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Senate respectfully requests that the federal government live up to the true intent of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in all issues of access, and creation of additional Conservation System Units, and fully support exchanges of high resource value land with Alaska to enable Alaska to establish greater economic and infrastructure opportunities for the people of the state.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Bob Dole, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.