CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 202(FIN) am(fld S)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 9/27/99
Offered: 9/27/99

Sponsor(s): HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

A RESOLUTION

Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to use of renewable resources for subsistence by residents.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

* Section 1. Article VIII, sec. 4, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

Section 4. Sustained Yield. (a) Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.

(b) The legislature may, consistent with the sustained yield principle, provide a preference to and among residents to take a wild renewable resource for subsistence uses on the basis of customary and traditional use, direct dependence, the availability of alternative resources, the place of residence, or proximity to the resource. When the harvestable surplus of the resource is not sufficient to provide for all beneficial uses, other beneficial uses shall be limited to protect subsistence uses.

* Sec. 2. Article XV, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended by adding a new
Section 30. Effective Date of Subsistence Amendment. If the amendment to Section 4 of Article VIII, regarding use of renewable resources for subsistence, is adopted at the 2000 general election, the amendment takes effect immediately on certification of the election returns by the lieutenant governor.

* Sec. 3. PURPOSE. The purpose of the amendments proposed by this resolution is to allow for a preference for subsistence uses of fish, wildlife, and other renewable natural resources; to ensure state management of fish and wildlife throughout the state; to address the constitutional issues identified by the Alaska Supreme Court in McDowell v. State of Alaska, 785 P.2d 1 (Alaska 1989) and State v. Kenaitze Indian Tribe, 894 P.2d 632 (Alaska 1995); and to bring the state into compliance with Title VIII, Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (PL. 96-487).

* Sec. 4. The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed before the voters of the state at the next general election in conformity with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the election laws of the state.