



**Comments on SJR015
Opposing International Designations**

Council of
Alaska Producers

February 6, 2014

The Honorable Senator Cathy Giessel
Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Giessel:

The Council of Alaska Producers (CAP) is writing in support of Senate Joint Resolution 15, a resolution opposing any international designation of Alaska land or water as an international park, world heritage site, biosphere reserve, Ramsar site, or other classification of land or water that affects the use of land or water by the state or an Alaska Native Corporation without approval of the United States Congress and the Alaska State Legislature.

CAP is a non-profit trade association formed in 1992 and serves as a spokesperson for the large metal mines and major metal developmental projects in the state. Bringing together mining companies with interest in Alaska, the Council represents and informs members on legislative and regulatory issues, supports and advances the mining industry, educates members, the media, and the general public on mining related issues, and promotes economic opportunity and environmentally sound mining practices.

Governor Sean Parnell and U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski have expressed concern that the federal government has not consulted the State of Alaska on its proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Russian Federation to create the Berengia International Park.

Locking up land in an international park simply adds more federal bureaucracy to the management of Alaska's lands and marine resources. CAP does not support measures that could impede access to Alaska's lands or preclude the development of resources on those lands.

Thank you for introducing this resolution and for your efforts to ensure that Alaska can continue to develop its resources for the maximum benefit of its people.

Sincerely,

Karen Matthias
Managing Consultant