

STATE OF ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2007

Source
HR 6

**House
Resolve No.**
6



Encouraging all states to oppose the decision of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to list the polar bear as a threatened species.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

WHEREAS the decision of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to pursue listing of the polar bear as a threatened species is based on studies that are limited in scope, are speculative in nature, disregard the views of numerous other scientific studies, do not recognize the health of current polar bear populations, and, instead, favor worst-case predictions for future populations; and

WHEREAS current polar bear populations are two to three times what they were 30 years ago and are successfully managed throughout the Arctic in a sustainable manner under international agreements; and

WHEREAS listing the polar bear as a threatened species would affect existing international agreements and treaties with Russia, Canada, and other countries; and

WHEREAS listing the polar bear as a threatened species would affect access by Alaska Natives to polar bears for traditional uses; and

WHEREAS listing the polar bear as a threatened species would prove detrimental to

the economy of the state by delaying the development of natural resources essential to the welfare of the state and the nation as a whole; and

WHEREAS listing the polar bear as a threatened species would disregard states' rights relative to resource development and thus affect every state in the United States; and

WHEREAS listing the polar bear as a threatened species would further affect every state in the United States by requiring that every federal process in the nation that involves emissions or any activity related to a decline in polar bear populations be subject to new reviews by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or other government agencies;

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives opposes the decision of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to list the polar bear as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives strongly encourages all other states to oppose the decision of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to list the polar bear as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States; the governors of each of the other 49 states; the presiding officers of the legislatures of each of the other 49 states; the Honorable H. Dale Hall, Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.