

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR PEARCE

Introduced: 1/13/98

Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to support of the State of Alaska's areawide leasing program.

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

3 WHEREAS the Nineteenth Alaska State Legislature unanimously passed and the
4 Governor signed legislation (House Bill 388) that acknowledges areawide leasing as a policy
5 that is in the best interest of the state; and

6 WHEREAS the state must contend with a highly competitive global market for oil and
7 gas exploration and development; and

8 WHEREAS areawide leasing encourages substantial economic investment in the state
9 by offering businesses some certainty through annual bidding opportunities over a period of
10 10 years; and

11 WHEREAS areawide leasing brings efficiency to government by eliminating the need
12 to make a best interest finding for leasing in regions that have already had extensive leasing;
13 and

14 WHEREAS the areawide leasing process does not reduce the public's right or
15 opportunity to comment but, in fact, adds opportunities to comment through an annual request
16 for new information from the public; and

17 WHEREAS the oil and gas industry provides 80 percent of the state's unrestricted

1 revenue base; and

2 **WHEREAS** a prosperous business environment and employment for Alaska's people
3 depend on the continued health of the state's oil and gas industry; and

4 **WHEREAS** areawide leasing helps promote a healthy oil and gas industry in the state;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature supports a strong Alaska economy and
7 opportunities for Alaska businesses;

8 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature endorses the State of Alaska's
9 areawide leasing program for the Cook Inlet, North Slope, and Beaufort Sea regions.