

**CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6(RES)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 2/3/95**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS TAYLOR, Halford, Kelly, Sharp, Frank, Green, Pearce**

**REPRESENTATIVE Ogan**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Relating to federally held property in those states, including Alaska, admitted to**  
**2 the Union since 1802.**

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

**4 WHEREAS** the founding fathers of this nation recognized that land is power and that  
**5 a centralized federal government with a substantial land base would eventually overwhelm the**  
**6 states and pose a threat to the freedom of the individual; and**

**7 WHEREAS** the original 13 colonies and the next five states admitted to the Union  
**8 were granted fee title to all land within their borders; and**

**9 WHEREAS** all but two states admitted to the Union since 1802 were denied the same  
**10 rights of land ownership granted the states admitted earlier; and**

**11 WHEREAS** art. I, sec. 8, of the Constitution of the United States of America makes  
**12 no provision for land ownership by the federal government, other than by purchase from the**  
**13 states of land "...for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful**  
**14 buildings"; and**

**15 WHEREAS** acting contrary to the provisions of art. I, sec. 8, of the Constitution of  
**16 the United States, the federal government withheld property from the states admitted since**

1 1802, making them land poor and unable to determine their own land use and development  
2 policies; and

3 **WHEREAS** this action has made those states admitted since 1802 unequal to other  
4 states and subject to unwarranted federal control; and

5 **WHEREAS** restoration of property to which they are historically and constitutionally  
6 entitled would empower the land poor states to determine their own land use policies;

7 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the 104th Congress of  
8 the United States to right the wrong and to transfer to the states, by fee title, any federally  
9 controlled property currently held within the states admitted to the Union since 1802; and be  
10 it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Congress is urged to then purchase from the newly  
12 empowered States land needed to meet the provision of art. I, sec. 8, United States  
13 Constitution.

14 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President  
15 Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Robert Dole, Majority Leader of the U.S.  
16 Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to  
17 members of the delegations in Congress of those States admitted to the Union since 1802; to  
18 the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the  
19 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.