

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2005

Source
CSHCR 10(RES)

Legislative
Resolve No.
18



Supporting the development of the Kensington Gold Mine.

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

WHEREAS the state has abundant natural resources, particularly mineral resources;
and

WHEREAS the state seeks to develop these minerals in an environmentally responsible manner that will benefit all of its residents; and

WHEREAS Coeur Alaska, Inc., has proposed to develop the Kensington Gold Mine north of Juneau, investing over \$150,000,000 since 1989; and

WHEREAS the Kensington Gold Mine would create over 300 construction jobs and 225 long-term, year-round operations jobs with \$16,000,000 in annual benefits and payroll, diversifying the economy in Southeast Alaska while protecting the environment; and

WHEREAS the United States Forest Service has completed an exhaustive environmental impact analysis and favorable Record of Decision, based on over 900 environmental and engineering studies and a related spending commitment by Coeur Alaska, Inc., of approximately \$25,000,000; and

WHEREAS the United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska

Fisherman's Alliance have expressed written support for the Kensington Gold Mine; and

WHEREAS the Kensington Gold Mine has also demonstrated a commitment to local employment, training, Alaska and Native hire, and purchases; and

WHEREAS Coeur Alaska, Inc., has demonstrated an exemplary environmental track record in the state and has demonstrated that it is a responsible environmental steward for all its domestic and international mining projects; and

WHEREAS Coeur Alaska, Inc., intends to commence a summer 2005 construction startup, following receipt of the remaining federal and state permits;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims its strong support for this environmentally responsible mining project, and encourages all federal and state agencies to proceed and complete thorough and timely permitting reviews and issue the necessary permits in order that a summer 2005 construction schedule can be achieved and that 2006 gold production with associated economic and employment benefits can be realized to benefit the people of Southeast Alaska and the state as a whole.