

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

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Urging the governor to expand the subjects to be addressed during the Third Special Session of the Twenty-Fifth Alaska State Legislature to include an in-state natural gas pipeline for the transport of natural gas produced on the North Slope and to develop a plan for the economical distribution of that natural gas to communities throughout the state.

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

WHEREAS energy prices, including home heating bills, are at an all-time high in every community in the state; and

WHEREAS the production of natural gas is declining, and the decline is projected to result in energy shortages and increasing utility rates for the population centers in the state; and

WHEREAS, although significant reserves of natural gas have been confirmed to exist on the North Slope, these reserves continue to be undeveloped; and

WHEREAS the people of Alaska expect that the natural resources of the state are to be developed in a responsible manner that benefits all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska holds at least three trillion cubic feet of royalty gas in developed North Slope petroleum fields and significant additional reserves at Point Thomson; and

WHEREAS petroleum companies are, for the first time, drilling and exploring for natural gas on the North Slope and will need the development of a transportation system to encourage continued exploration, development, and production on the North Slope;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the governor to use her influence to encourage public and private sector entities to

(1) prepare information and a project description for a natural gas pipeline and delivery system that will provide affordable energy to urban and rural communities in the state;

(2) identify opportunities for the value-added processing of natural gas resources in the state;

(3) develop a plan for the commercialization and development of the natural gas resources on the North Slope; and

(4) identify alternative plans to maximize a project for transporting natural gas from the North Slope to market, including the export of liquefied natural gas and the creation of opportunities for the industrial use of natural gas; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the governor to identify and assemble potential sponsors, including natural gas producers, marketing entities, construction and engineering firms, and financial institutions, that could participate in the development, construction, and operation of an in-state natural gas pipeline project; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the governor to expand the subjects to be addressed during the Third Special Session of the Twenty-Fifth Alaska State Legislature to include an in-state natural gas pipeline for the transport of natural gas produced on the North Slope and to develop a plan for the economical distribution of that natural gas to communities throughout the state.