26-LS0480\E Bannister 2/2/09

CS FOR SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: Referred:

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Sponsor(s): SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION

Relating to the federal stimulus package.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

WHEREAS the economy of the United States is experiencing a recession that is causing significant loss of employment and income for many American families; and

WHEREAS significant financial hardship is also occurring in Alaska and is exacerbated by the current price of oil and the continuing high cost of other types of energy; and

WHEREAS the loss of income in the state has made it difficult for many families in the state to afford the necessities of life, including fuel, food, and health care; and

WHEREAS the federal government is considering a stimulus package to alleviate the dire consequences of the nation's economic downturn; and

WHEREAS the proposed federal stimulus package emphasizes the need for each state to boost its local economies through the initiation of a wide range of projects, including projects involving transportation facilities, school construction, health care services, and energy resources, and these projects will temporarily provide employment to workers to help them and their families weather the current economic hardships; and

WHEREAS to accomplish that purpose, the United States Congress is relying on existing formulas and grant programs to allocate funds to the states, and President Obama and the leadership of both parties in the United States Congress have indicated that specific projects will not be included in the economic stimulus package;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate desires a comprehensive federal stimulus package that allocates to Alaska the state's fair share of funding so that the citizens of all regions of the state will benefit and that includes a provision entitling Alaska to receive an outer continental shelf revenue share that is commensurate with the share provided for the gulf-producing states; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED by the Senate that Alaska's participation in the federal stimulus package should recognize the breadth of the state's economy by stimulating a variety of the segments of the state's economy, including transportation, energy, education, health care, nutrition, the environment, information technology, and other areas.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.