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House Concurrent Resolution 22

"Urging the governor to take all action necessary to keep in-state oil refiners in operation and to keep oil refining operations in the state competitive"

Flint Hills will begin decommissioning the extraction unit integral to gasoline production on May 1, 2014 and decommissioning of the balance of crude unit two on June 1, 2014, which impacts production of jet fuel, heating fuel, asphalt and some specialty fuels. It is vital that the State work expediently with any potential buyers.

The refiners along TAPS have no choice but to buy Alaska North Slope (ANS) crude, and ANS currently is one of the highest-priced crude oils in the country. The State has the power to directly address the problem of high ANS crude prices by selling royalty oil to in-state refiners at prices that would broadly serve the State and its residents by helping to preserve and foster local refining capacity.

Sulfolane was found to be highly effective in separating high purity aromatic compounds from hydrocarbon mixtures using liquid-liquid extraction. This process is widely used in refineries. The discovery in late 2009 of sulfolane in drinking water wells near the North Pole Refinery has led to an extensive investigation of contaminated groundwater. The plume is nearly 2.5 miles wide and 3 miles long, one of the largest in the state. Flint Hills Resources has responded to residents by providing an alternate drinking water source. The State needs to expediently determine a long-term solution for North Pole residents so that they may be guaranteed clean drinking water.

I ask for your support of HCR 22 by urging the governor to take all action necessary to keep in-state oil refiners in operating and competitive.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE ~ REPRESENTATIVE TAMMIE WILSON