



Alaska State Legislature

1966

Source:

HJR 71 am

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JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to maximum appropriations under the federal Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964.

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

WHEREAS Alaskans were encouraged at the passage of PL 88-309, the Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964, because it would have a salutary effect on the commercial fisheries industry of the nation; and

WHEREAS the Act authorized appropriations of \$5,000,000 to be made each year for five consecutive years and apportioned among the several states to meet commercial fishery failures due to resource disasters and for the development of new commercial fisheries; and

WHEREAS during the first year the Act was in effect no funds were appropriated by the Congress to implement the programs under the Act and in the current fiscal year only 4.1 million dollars were appropriated for apportionment to the several states; and

WHEREAS for the next fiscal year, 1967, the Bureau of the Budget has only requested 2.6 million dollars for state apportionment under the Act despite the fact that full funding of the

program up to the annual 5 million dollar maximum is essential to the welfare of the commercial fisheries resources and the commercial fishing industry of the United States; and

WHEREAS the commercial fishing industry of the United States is desperately facing foreign competition near our shores which is supported by superior fleets having labor and vessel costs much lower than our own and this competition has had the net result of dropping the United States from second place to fifth place among the fishing nations of the world; and

WHEREAS Alaska's largest basic industry is its commercial fishery which provides a livelihood for over 17,000 fishermen and over 7,500 shore workers in 173 fish processing plants and the state has given vigorous support to the limit of its financial ability, to its fisheries programs in an effort to arrest and reverse the downward trend in landings through realistic programs of fisheries improvement and development; and

WHEREAS PL 88-309 wisely acknowledged the need for a greatly accelerated program of commercial fisheries research and development by placing the federal government in coordination with the several states; and

WHEREAS the development of a healthy national fishing industry capable of providing maximum human benefits consistent with proper conservation and wise use is possible through increased factual knowledge;

BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the United States and the Congress are respectfully urged to insure that \$5,000,000 be appropriated for apportionment to the several states in fiscal year 1967 for implementing programs under the Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States; the Honorable Carl Hayden, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee; the Honorable George H. Mahon, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; the Honorable Charles L. Schultze, Director, Bureau of the Budget; and to the Honorable E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.