



# Alaska State Legislature

1969

Source:

SJR 58

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to the establishment of a common name for crabs of the genus *Chionoecetes*.

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

WHEREAS the Food and Drug Administration has proposed that crabs of the species *C. bairdi*, *C. opilio*, *C. angulatus*, and *C. tanneri* be designated by the common name "snow crab"; and

WHEREAS the canned snow crab of foreign origin which has been marketed in this country has been of poor quality and has earned a poor reputation for the name snow crab; and

WHEREAS horse crab, which is recognized as being technologically inferior, has also been marketed in this country as snow crab, and this has further established a poor association in the minds of consumers with the name snow crab; and

WHEREAS the name "queen crab", though relatively recent in origin, is already the name most commonly associated with crabs of the species *C. opilio* in eastern Canada, and the products are being marketed in eastern United States under this name; and

WHEREAS the species *C. bairdi*, and *C. opilio* are prevalent in Alaska waters and the official labeling of them with a common name of crabs of an inferior quality would seriously affect the crab industry in this state; and

WHEREAS designating these four species of crab as "queen crab" would follow a trend already begun and would greatly aid the marketing of this product, while designating them "snow crab" would cause serious difficulties to the American producers;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth Legislature of the State of Alaska urges the Food and Drug Administration to designate "queen crab" as the acceptable common name for all crabs of the genus Chionoecetes.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Robert Finch, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; the Honorable Frank Clark, Director of the Food and Drug Administration; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.