



Alaska State Legislature

1972

Source:

SCSHJR 85

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 85

Relating to the provisional action of the United States Department of State delimitation of the territorial sea, contiguous zone and certain internal waters of the United States.

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

WHEREAS the United States Department of State has provisionally issued charts showing its interpretations of existing legal interpretations to delimit the territorial sea, contiguous zone and certain internal waters of the United States; and

WHEREAS some waters historically considered as internal waters of the State of Alaska are depicted on these charts as territorial sea or international waters; and

WHEREAS, if these charts are not revised, foreign vessels may fish with impunity the boundaries of our country, thereby allowing foreign fishermen to fish closer to Alaskan shores than ever before; and

WHEREAS, if allowed to stand, the provisional charts would enable the federal government to obtain a disproportionate share of the underseas mineral resources that would be affected under the proposal thereby causing the state to lose possibly millions of dollars of revenue;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Department of State is urgently requested to review and revise the provisional charts as they affect Alaska and urgently requests the United States Congress to hold public hearings in Alaska in order to establish lines delineating territorial, internal, contiguous and international waters utilizing tradition, custom, and legal interpretations which are consistent with the protection of our fishing areas and the rights of Alaska to our offshore mineral potential.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable William P. Rogers, Secretary of State; the Honorable Richard Kleindienst, Attorney General Designate; the Honorable Rogers C.B. Morton, Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Honorable J. W. Fulbright, Chairman, Senate Foreign Relations Committee; the Honorable Thomas E. Morgan, Chairman, House Foreign Affairs Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.