

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1988

Source

SJR 71 am H

Legislative
Resolve No.

105



Relating to British fur labeling.

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

WHEREAS trapping is vital to thousands of people throughout Alaska, Canada, and Greenland; and

WHEREAS trapping provides much needed supplemental income to support the traditional subsistence lifestyle; and

WHEREAS the sale of fur brings up to \$10,000,000 of income a year to Alaskan trappers; and

WHEREAS a current proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Industry would require that fur products imported into Great Britain for resale be labeled as follows: "May have been taken with the steel-jaw leg-hold trap"; and

WHEREAS this label would discourage consumer purchases and diminish the market for fur products in Great Britain; and

WHEREAS Alaskans who harvest fur products that enter the United Kingdom would be adversely affected; and

WHEREAS the proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Industry fails to recognize the severe cultural and economic effects it would have on many Alaskans; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska recognizes that the harvesting of renewable resources, such as fur-bearers, by residents of rural Alaska is important to their economic and cultural survival, and that the harvesting of animals for subsistence and trade is a centuries-old tradition that cannot be replaced without causing severe economic and social hardships;

RE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of Alaska stands firmly opposed to the proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Industry, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of Alaska respectfully requests the Prime Minister and Parliament of Great Britain to rescind the proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Industry.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Right Honorable Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of Great Britain; to the Honorable Alan Clark, M.P., Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry, Great Britain; to the Right Honorable Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, M.P., Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth, Great Britain; to the Right Honorable Martin Brian Mulroney, PC, M.P., Prime Minister of Canada; to the Right Honorable Charles Joseph Clark, PC, M.P., Secretary of State for External Affairs, Canada; to the Honorable Thomas Michael McMillan, PC, M.P., Minister of the Environment, Canada; to the Honorable William Hunter McKnight, PC, M.P., Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Canada; to Sir Alan Urwick, British High Commissioner to Canada; to the Honorable Tony Penikett, Government Leader, Yukon Territory, Canada; to the Honorable Dennis Patterson, Government Leader, Northwest Territories; and to Jonathan Motzfeldt, Chairman of the Landsting, Home Government of Greenland.