

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1988

Source

HCS CSSCR 41(Res)

Legislative  
Resolve No.

95



Relating to the further development of Alaskan coal.

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

WHEREAS advances in modern mining technology, equipment, and services have greatly enhanced coal mining extraction and reclamation capabilities; and

WHEREAS art. VIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, provides that "It is the policy of the state to encourage the settlement of its land and the development of its resources by making them available for maximum use consistent with the public interest"; and

WHEREAS the state contains more than 40 percent of the entire known coal reserves in the United States; and

WHEREAS currently the state's annual coal production of 1,600,000 tons comprises less than 0.2 percent of the total annual United States production; and

WHEREAS there is only one active coal mine in the entire state; and

WHEREAS between 1972 and 1987 Australian steam coal production has grown from 250,000 tons a year to more than 46,000,000 tons a year, with a value of nearly \$3.4 billion; and

WHEREAS there is great potential for expanding both instate utilization and Pacific Rim export markets for Alaskan coal;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Governor to encourage the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of commerce and economic development, the commissioner of environmental conservation, the commissioner

of fish and game, and the director of the office of international trade to pursue policies that will lead to the removal of regulatory impediments to, and further promote the development of, the crucial coal mining industry within the state.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Steve Cowper, Governor; the Honorable Judith Brady, commissioner of natural resources; the Honorable Dennis Kelso, commissioner of environmental conservation; the Honorable Don Collinsworth, commissioner of fish and game; the Honorable J. Anthony Smith, commissioner of commerce and economic development; the Honorable Mark Hickey, commissioner of transportation and public facilities; and to Bob Poe, director of the office of international trade.