

STATE OF ALASKA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1990

Source

HR 14 am

House
Resolve No.

8



Denouncing plea negotiations between the federal government and Exxon Corporation.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

WHEREAS the State of Alaska, its resources, and its citizens have incurred substantial damages and costs because of the March 24, 1989, EXXON VALDEZ oil spill; and

WHEREAS it has been the policy of the state to pursue a vigorous effort to recover full, fair, and just compensation for the damages and costs incurred by the state, its resources, and its citizens; and

WHEREAS the state has, in the past, received repeated assurances from the federal government that it will also pursue oil spill compensation vigorously and in full cooperation with the state; and

WHEREAS federal officials have confirmed that the federal government is negotiating with the Exxon Corporation to resolve pending criminal charges related to the oil spill through a plea agreement; and

WHEREAS it appears that as a result of the proposed plea agreement the ability of the federal government to pursue a full recovery of oil spill costs and damages will be substantially restricted; and

WHEREAS, according to the state attorney general, the federal government has demanded that the state agree to be bound by the terms of the plea agreement and the state has refused; and

WHEREAS, according to the state attorney general, federal officials have stated that, in light of the state's refusal to accede to federal demands to be bound by the plea agreement, it

will no longer cooperate with the state in pursuing a full, fair, and just recovery for the oil spill damages and costs;

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives that on behalf of the people of the State of Alaska, we call upon the federal government to renounce its proposed pact with the Exxon Corporation and to reaffirm its intent to fully cooperate with the state in pursuit of a full, fair, and just recovery for the damages done to the people and the state's resources by the EXXON VALDEZ oil spill.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard L. Thornburgh, Attorney General of the United States; Edward S. G. Dennis, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, U. S. Department of Justice; Richard B. Stewart, Assistant Attorney General, Land and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.