

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 46(RES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/28/95

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE MACKIE

A RESOLUTION

1 Endorsing development of the Fall Creek hydroelectric project near Gustavus.

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

3 WHEREAS electricity used in Glacier Bay National Park and Gustavus is provided
4 by diesel generation; and

5 WHEREAS power consumption in this area is projected to increase; and

6 WHEREAS a small hydroelectric project at Fall Creek could satisfy the needs of
7 Glacier Bay National Park and the community of Gustavus well into the 21st century; and

8 WHEREAS hydroelectric generation at Fall Creek would result in fuel savings,
9 reduced operating and maintenance costs, and provide the necessary improvements and
10 upgrades to the existing power system to meet demand, and thereby reduce power costs to
11 consumers; and

12 WHEREAS the Fall Creek hydroelectric project is intended to be financed solely by
13 private capital; and

14 WHEREAS issues related to Glacier Bay National Park are frequently contentious, but
15 the community of Gustavus and the National Park Service agree that the Fall Creek
16 hydroelectric project could be environmentally sound and economically advantageous; and

17 WHEREAS the community of Gustavus recently reaffirmed support of the Fall Creek

1 hydroelectric project in a unanimous vote; and

2 **WHEREAS**, because the site of the proposed hydroelectric project is within the
3 boundaries of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, an Act of Congress will be needed to
4 change designation of the land status;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature endorses private development
6 of the Fall Creek hydroelectric project and encourages the Congress to enact appropriate
7 measures to redesignate the land status; and be it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the National Park
9 Service and other federal agencies to cooperate with the project developer and state agencies
10 for expeditious permitting for the Fall Creek hydroelectric project.

11 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of
12 the U.S. Department of the Interior; Roger G. Kennedy, Director, National Park Service, U.S.
13 Department of the Interior; Robert Barbee, Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service,
14 U.S. Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
15 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of
16 the Alaska delegation in Congress.