

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 67

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Introduced: 4/30/96

Referred: Resources, House Special Committee on Fisheries

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to transit fees imposed on United States fishing vessels by Canada.

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

3 WHEREAS in 1994, Canada imposed a transit fee of \$1,100 on United States fishing
4 vessels crossing Canadian territorial waters; and

5 WHEREAS in 1996, Canada has refused to engage in good faith negotiations
6 regarding the Pacific Salmon Treaty; and

7 WHEREAS Canada is threatening to impose a much greater transit fee on United
8 States fishing vessels during 1996; and

9 WHEREAS the imposition of a transit fee by Canada would force some United States
10 fishing vessels to travel between the west coast of the United States and Alaska via the
11 unprotected outside waters off the western coast of Canada and thus would imperil the safety
12 of United States citizens; and

13 WHEREAS the United States has not contemplated the imposition of a similar transit
14 fee on Canadian fishing vessels in United States territorial waters in the northern boundary
15 area, in the transboundary rivers such as the Taku River and the Stikine River, or coast wide;

16 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature opposes the imposition of transit
17 fees by Canada on United States fishing vessels transiting Canadian territorial waters; and be

1 it

2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
3 President Clinton and the Congress to impose a similar transit fee on Canadian fishing vessels
4 transiting United States territorial waters if Canada imposes a transit fee on United States
5 fishing vessels during 1996.

6 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
7 United States; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
8 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
9 delegation in Congress.