

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10(RES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/28/05

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION

1 **Supporting the development of the Kensington Gold Mine.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the state has abundant natural resources, particularly mineral resources;
4 and

5 **WHEREAS** the state seeks to develop these minerals in an environmentally
6 responsible manner that will benefit all of its residents; and

7 **WHEREAS** Coeur Alaska, Inc., has proposed to develop the Kensington Gold Mine
8 north of Juneau, investing over \$150,000,000 since 1989; and

9 **WHEREAS** the Kensington Gold Mine would create over 300 construction jobs and
10 225 long-term, year-round operations jobs with \$16,000,000 in annual benefits and payroll,
11 diversifying the economy in Southeast Alaska while protecting the environment; and

12 **WHEREAS** the United States Forest Service has completed an exhaustive
13 environmental impact analysis and favorable Record of Decision, based on over 900
14 environmental and engineering studies and a related spending commitment by Coeur Alaska,
15 Inc., of approximately \$25,000,000; and

16 **WHEREAS** the United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters and Southeast Alaska

1 Fisherman's Alliance have expressed written support for the Kensington Gold Mine; and

2 **WHEREAS** the Kensington Gold Mine has also demonstrated a commitment to local
3 employment, training, Alaska and Native hire and purchases; and

4 **WHEREAS** Coeur Alaska, Inc., has demonstrated an exemplary environmental track
5 record in the state and has demonstrated that it is a responsible environmental steward for all
6 its domestic and international mining projects; and

7 **WHEREAS** Coeur Alaska, Inc., intends to commence a summer 2005 construction
8 startup, following receipt of the remaining federal and state permits;

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims its strong support for
10 this environmentally responsible mining project, and encourages all federal and state agencies
11 to proceed and complete thorough and timely permitting reviews and issue the necessary
12 permits in order that a summer 2005 construction schedule can be achieved and that 2006
13 gold production with associated economic and employment benefits can be realized to benefit
14 the people of Southeast Alaska and the state as a whole.