

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR JONES

2 SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 13

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-FIRST SESSION

5 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: HONORABLE DOUGLAS MCKAY,
6 SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; CHAIRMEN OF THE DEFENSE COMMITTEES
7 OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE: HONORABLE HUGH BUTLER, CHAIRMAN OF
8 THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIES: AND HONORABLE E. L.
9 BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA:

10 Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Legislature of the
11 Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-First Regular Session assembled,
12 respectfully submits that:

13 WHEREAS, Seward Peninsula, and especially the Lost River
14 area near Cape Prince of Wales, has the only known deposits of
15 tin and large ledges of cassiterite, from which tin is derived, and

16 WHEREAS, tin is a strategic mineral in the economy of the
17 United States at this time, and is difficult to obtain, and
18 may be much more difficult on account of war conditions, and

19 WHEREAS, at the present time there is an operation at Lost
20 River developing a deposit of ore containing tin, with about
21 sixty men employed, and which property is also developing
22 scheelite, from which tungsten is derived in commercial quan-
23 tities, and

24 WHEREAS, on account of the nature of the country, the Sew-
25 ard Peninsula, and especially where there are indications of
26 valuable strategic minerals, there are few harbors and fewer
27 roads or transportation facilities of any kind, and

28 WHEREAS, certain surveys have been made in the area for
29 highways and a railroad from Nenana to Grantley Harbor, a deep-

1 water bay about thirty miles south and east of the mouth of
2 Lost River, and examinations and surveys were made at Port
3 Lawrence Bay to determine the feasibility of building a dock
4 for direct loading and unloading of ocean-going steamers, and

5 WHEREAS, at the close of the last war this work was aban-
6 doned and all that portion of Alaska north and west of the
7 Yukon River and all that portion north of the Alaska Railroad
8 was excluded from the defense area, and vast sums expended in
9 the building of roads and rehabilitation of railroads and the
10 construction of airfields in other areas of Alaska, including
11 the Fairbanks and Anchorage areas, and

12 WHEREAS, on account of its proximity to Russia, the area
13 on Seward Peninsula and that herein described, is of vital
14 strategic importance to the United States, and it is an isolated
15 country and extremely difficult for prospecting and development.

16 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Territory
17 of Alaska, respectfully urges that steps be taken immediately
18 to survey and build a railroad from Nenana on the Alaska Rail-
19 road to Grantley Harbor, and that such roadwork be undertaken
20 on Seward Peninsula and in the vicinity of the valuable prospects
21 for strategic minerals as will promote the prospecting for min-
22 erals and the developments of mineral deposits, and that the
23 area herein described be considered as a vital part of the
24 defense area of Alaska and treated accordingly.

25 AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

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