IN THE HOUSE

BY MRS. RYAN
BY REQUEST

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 15

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

TO THE HONORABLE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; THE UNITED STATES SENATE; THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; THE DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF THE BUDGET; AND THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the House of Rep. Legislature of the Territory of Alaska in Twenty-Second Regular Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, upon survey of unappropriated public land in the Territory of Alaska sections numbered 16 and 36 of each township and section 33 in the Townships of Tanana Valley have been reserved to the Territory for the support of the public school system by the Act of Congress of March 4, 1915 (48 USC 353); and

WHEREAS, less than 1% of the Territory's entitlement to such sections has been reserved to the Territory by reason of lack of federal surveys; and

WHEREAS, the Territory is authorized to lease said lands for periods not in excess of 10 years duration at any one time; and

WHEREAS, some of the reserved school sections are close to or within the corporate boundaries of cities and industrialized areas and there is a growing demand for long term leases from the Territory in order that the lessee will be justified in constructing substantial and permanent improvements and be assured of the opportunity of amortizing the cost of improvements during the term lease period; and

WHEREAS, it will be possible to make a higher use of the land under a long term lease than one of only ten years duration and such higher use will return increased rentals to the Territory; and

WHEREAS, for the past several sessions of Congress, bills have been introduced to authorize the Territory to enter into leases for school land for longer terms than ten years, and in no case have such bills been favorably acted upon, and the Territory is seriously handicapped in further waiting for favorable action,

NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in the Twenty-Second Session assembled, respectfully urges that the Act of March 4, 1915 (48 USC 353) be amended as provided for in H.R. 1570, 83rd Congress, 2nd Session to give the Territory authority for leasing said lands as it may deem proper for a maximum of 55 years at any one time.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

H.J.M. No. ___