

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR OWEN

2

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

5

TO THE HONORABLE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED

6

STATES; THE HONORABLE FRED SEATON, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; THE

7

HONORABLE ROSS L. LEFFLER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR

8

FISH AND WILDLIFE; THE HONORABLE JAMES MURRAY, CHAIRMAN OF THE

9

INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES SEN-

10

ATE; THE HONORABLE CLAIR ENGLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERIOR AND IN-

11

SULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; THE

12

HONORABLE WAINO HENDRICKSON, ACTING GOVERNOR OF ALASKA; THE HONOR-

13

ABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA AND TO THE

14

UNITED STATES CONGRESS:

15

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska,

16

in Twenty-Third Session assembled, respectfully represents that:

17

WHEREAS, when the original Thirteen Colonies banded together

18

to create a union of states and to formulate a constitution,

19

certain powers were delegated to the Federal government, while

20

others were retained by the States; and

21

WHEREAS, among those powers retained was the control of the

22

commercial fish resources, which were considered to be the property

23

of the state and to be regulated for the benefit of all the people

24

of the state; and

25

WHEREAS, every new state entering the union did so on an equal

26

basis with the older states and accordingly retained control of

27

its commercial fish resources; and

28

WHEREAS, every territory, except one, was also allowed to

29

control these resources before becoming a state, this one exception

1 being Alaska; and

2 WHEREAS, the people of the Territory of Alaska have time and
3 again recorded their wish for control of their fisheries; and

4 WHEREAS, repeated legislation has been introduced in the
5 Congress of the United States asking that the people of Alaska
6 have extended to them the same right of control over commercial
7 fisheries as has been granted and is enjoyed by the several states;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Territorial Legislature has created and ap-
10 propriated monies to a Territorial Fisheries Department and an
11 Alaskan Fishery Board; and

12 WHEREAS, Alaska's fisheries, in the past, have suffered
13 alarming depletion under Federal management, while those of
14 neighboring jurisdictions have, under local control, steadily
15 improved; and

16 WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Fisheries has been function-
17 ing in an efficient manner for nearly eight years and are able to
18 expand and assume all duties and responsibilities incident to full
19 control of the fisheries of Alaska; and

20 WHEREAS, it is an affront to the people of Alaska that their
21 continued pleas for the right to manage and control their major
22 industry and resource have gone unheeded;

23 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the
24 Territory of Alaska in Twenty-third Session assembled, respect-
25 fully prays that the Congress of the United States, in accordance
26 with the mandate of the people of Alaska, act at once to transfer
27 control of the commercial fisheries of Alaska to the government
28 of the Territory of Alaska.

29 AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.