

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR FOSTER

2

SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 7

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

5 TO THE HONORABLE CHARLES E. WILSON, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE;
6 THE HONORABLE FRED A. SEATON, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR;
7 HONORABLE JAMES T. MITCHELL, SECRETARY OF LABOR; HONORABLE
8 WAINO HENDRICKSON, ACTING GOVERNOR OF ALASKA; HONORABLE E.
9 L. BARLETT, DELEGATE FROM ALASKA; HONORABLE HENRY BENSON,
10 ALASKA COMMISSIONER OF LABOR; AND TO THE VARIOUS CONSTRUCT-
11 TION LABOR UNIONS OF ALASKA.

12 Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of
13 Alaska, in Twenty-Third Session assembled, respectfully
14 represents:

15 WHEREAS, as a necessary part of the national defense pro-
16 gram of the Continental United States the Federal Government
17 has undertaken many substantial construction projects in Alaska
18 especially in the far North and West; and

19 WHEREAS, there exists in the extreme northwestern portion
20 of Alaska where much of this construction is taking place,
21 conditions of severe poverty and depression among the native
22 peoples created by the decline in hunting and fishing resources
23 in this area; and

24 WHEREAS, many of the Alaskans in the construction area are
25 competent and skillful workmen in a variety of trades; and

26 WHEREAS, many of these people have been denied employment
27 upon local construction projects due to discrimination on the
28 part of labor union in Alaska which have almost complete con-
29 trol of hiring and who bring in workers from the states and from

1 other areas of Alaska for jobs in preference to Alaskans living
2 in the construction area; and

3 WHEREAS, there is even discrimination in the pay received
4 by those few local people who have been employed, since the
5 contractor is required to room and board imported construction
6 workers and local construction workers must pay room and board
7 in the construction camps; and

8 WHEREAS, the Department of Defense has already issued
9 directives to the effect that local Alaskans be given priority
10 of employment upon construction projects;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, your memorialist, the Legislature of the
12 Territory of Alaska in Twenty-Third Session assembled,
13 respectfully urges that steps be taken to correct this dis-
14 crimination to the end that employment opportunities on
15 federal construction projects are offered to these Alaskans
16 in the Northwest so that the economy of the area may be improved
17 and that the chronic depression of Northwestern Alaska may
18 be ended.

19 AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

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