

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR BELTZ

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SENATE MEMORIAL NO. 10

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

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TO THE HONORABLE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES; THE

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HONORABLE WAINO HENDRICKSON, ACTING GOVERNOR OF THE TERRITORY OF

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ALASKA; THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS; TO

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THE DIRECTOR, ALASKA RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD; TO DR. CHARLES R.

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HAYMAN, COMMISSIONER OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; AND MR.

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JOHN APANGALOOK, PRESIDENT OF THE GAMBELL NATIVE COUNCIL, GAMBELL,

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ALASKA:

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Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Territory of Alaska, in

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Twenty-Third Session assembled, respectfully represents:

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WHEREAS, a water well is needed for safe drinking water in

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the village of Gambell, Alaska on St. Lawrence Island; and

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WHEREAS, Troutman Lake on St. Lawrence Island is the only

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source of fresh water supply for the said village of Gambell; and

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WHEREAS, a detachment of the United States Army at Gambell

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discharges liquid waste from the mess hall, shower stalls and

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latrine through underground lines into metal leaching barrels

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without septic action; and

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WHEREAS, the effluent from this leaching well is about 400 ft.

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away from Troutman Lake; and

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WHEREAS, in the Spring of 1956, there was an epidemic of

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stomach disorders in Gambell; and

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WHEREAS, the water in Troutman Lake has no doubt been con-

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taminated because of the leaching well from the military being so

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close to the lake; and

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WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Health has instructed the

SM #10

1 residents of the village of Gambell that all water must be boiled
2 before being consumed; and

3 WHEREAS, the cost of fuel oil in the village of Gambell is
4 prohibitively high, to-wit .49¢ a gallon; and

5 WHEREAS, the residents of St. Lawrence Island eat locally
6 cured food and not canned or processed food; and

7 WHEREAS, said residents do not have modern cooking facilities
8 to cook their food, let alone boil their water; and

9 WHEREAS, the village of Gambell has no industry or economy
10 other than carving ivory and therefore has no funds to construct
11 a safe and adequate water system; and

12 WHEREAS, a well is desperately needed with facilities to
13 chlorinate the water before consumption;

14 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist respectfully requests the
15 Alaska Rural Development Board to most seriously consider allocating
16 the necessary funds from its appropriation to construct a safe
17 and adequate water system in the village of Gambell, Alaska on St.
18 Lawrence Island.

19 AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

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