

BY MESSRS. BLODGETT, NUSUNGINYA,  
DEVEAU, JOHNSON AND RADEH.

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 23

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 TO THE HONORABLE FRED A. SEATON, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; THE  
6 HONORABLE ARNIE J. SUOMELA, COMMISSIONER OF FISH AND WILDLIFE;  
7 THE HONORABLE EDWARD WOZLEY, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT;  
8 THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT AND THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING,  
9 SENATORS FROM ALASKA; THE HONORABLE RALPH J. RIVERS, REPRESENTATIVE  
10 FROM ALASKA:

11 Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Alaska in  
12 First Legislature, First Session assembled, respectfully submits  
13 that:

14 WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has made  
15 application through the Bureau of Land Management for the with-  
16 drawal of certain lands in Alaska for the creation of an arctic  
17 wildlife range; and

18 WHEREAS, the land involved in the proposed withdrawal makes  
19 up almost the entire northeast corner of Alaska and consists of  
20 approximately 9,000,000 acres; and

21 WHEREAS, such a withdrawal would increase to 17,000,000 acres  
22 the amount of Alaskan lands devoted to game refuges; and

23 WHEREAS, this gigantic withdrawal from the public domain  
24 would discourage industrial and mineral development of the area;  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, the maintenance of a pristine, untouched arctic  
27 area would actually attract few residents and tourists, due to  
28 inaccessibility, making the recreational possibilities of such a  
29 withdrawal doubtful; and

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WHEREAS, eventual industrial and mineral development of the area, if left in the public domain, could in the future make the area both accessible and valuable;

NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges that all possible action be taken to discourage the establishment of this arctic wildlife refuge in northeast Alaska.