

BY MRS. FISCHER AND MESSRS. KALAMARIDES,
TAYLOR, FISHER, HELLENTHAL AND GRAY

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 35

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 TO THE HONORABLE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
6 STATE; THE HONORABLE FRED A. SEATON, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR;
7 THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. GATES, JR., SECRETARY OF DEFENSE; THE
8 HONORABLE SAM RAYBURN, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;
9 THE HONORABLE RICHARD NIXON, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; THE HON-
10 ORABLE E. L. BARTLETT AND THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, SENATORS
11 FROM ALASKA; AND THE HONORABLE RALPH J. RIVERS, REPRESENTATIVE
12 FROM ALASKA:

13 Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Alaska
14 in First Legislature, Second Session assembled respectfully
15 submits that:

16 WHEREAS, the citizens of Barrow, Alaska, are in desperate
17 need of fuel with which to heat their homes during the harsh
18 Arctic winter; and

19 WHEREAS, this desperate need is a chronic, annual occurrence,
20 caused by Barrow's extreme isolation from its artificially deter-
21 mined sources of fuel supply; and

22 WHEREAS, a ready source of natural gas for fuel is now being
23 used at Barrow, but exclusively by the federal government as a
24 private monopoly for the several federal agencies located at
25 Barrow; and

26 WHEREAS, this source of fuel, although held as a private
27 monopoly by the federal government, is rightly the property of
28 all the people - its discovery, exploitation, transmission, and
29 even its very monopoly use being paid for from the tax moneys

1 of the people, including the citizens of Barrow; and

2 WHEREAS, the only argument advanced against the use of the
3 natural gas by the citizens of Barrow is that such use will
4 result in a more rapid diminution of the source than will the
5 private, restricted use of the several federal agencies; and

6 WHEREAS, these federal agencies would never want for fuel
7 even if the gas were completely expended and the only suffering
8 they would experience would be inconvenience rather than cold
9 such as the citizens of Barrow must suffer; and

10 WHEREAS, the welfare of our citizens is immeasurably more
11 important than is the convenience of any or all the federal
12 agencies, and the convenience of any government should never be
13 placed before the welfare of the people from which all legitimate
14 government springs and in which all legitimate powers of govern-
15 ment rest; and

16 WHEREAS, Secretary of the Interior Seaton promised the
17 people of Barrow that he would do all possible to supply them with
18 natural gas; that his department was not opposed to such a move;
19 that only technical, legal difficulties stood in the way of such a
20 move; and that if these difficulties could not be solved adminis-
21 tratively, he would "initiate legislation making the gas available
22 to the Barrow Eskimos";

23 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges the Honorable Secretary
24 of the Interior to honor his promise to the people of Barrow and
25 to meet his duties as a servant of the people and requests the
26 federal government to relinquish its selfish monopoly on the natura-
27 gas supply of Barrow and share with the people the fuel which they
28 so desperately need.

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