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IN THE HOUSE

BY MRS. FISCHER

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 38

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

TO THE HONORABLE DENNIS CHAVEZ, CHAIRMAN, SENATE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE CHARLES A. BUCKLEY, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE HARRY F. BYRD, CHAIRMAN, SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE WILBUR D. MILLS, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE CARL HAYDEN, CHAIRMAN SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE CLARENCE CANNON, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT AND THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, SENATORS FROM ALASKA; AND THE HONORABLE RALPH J. RIVERS, REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALASKA:

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

WHEREAS, it is manifest that the primary need of this state is economic development; and

WHEREAS, this state is now undergoing a transition from an economy based on construction to one based on the exploitation of its natural resources; and

WHEREAS, every means available for the economic development of this state must be utilized and exploited; and

WHEREAS, it is common to the history of every country and every region within our own United States that economic development has inevitably and rapidly followed the creation of hydroelectric facilities and surplus electric power; and

WHEREAS, one of the greatest potential hydroelectric sites in the world is located at Rampart, Alaska, on the Yukon River,

1 and the development of power facilities at that place would greatly
2 enhance the future economy of this state; and

3 WHEREAS, the Corps of Engineers has estimated that it will
4 cost \$1,460,000 to conduct the preliminary study necessary before
5 any construction may be undertaken at Rampart and that it could
6 use \$350,000 for the preliminary study in fiscal year 1961; and

7 WHEREAS, the federal budget presented by the President in-
8 cludes only \$100,000 for this study - an amount which if appro-
9 priated each year would require 15 long years just to complete the
10 preliminary study; and

11 WHEREAS, time is money and to unnecessarily extend the time
12 needed to complete the project is actually to waste, not save,
13 money - both in the work on the project and in the eventual re-
14 turns from the project;

15 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges that the Congress in-
16 crease the amount to be appropriated to the Corps of Engineers for
17 the preliminary study for the proposed Rampart Dam from \$100,000
18 to the \$350,000 which the Corps of Engineers needs to accomplish
19 its work for this year and thereby speed the economic development
20 of this state and prevent the waste of 15 important years.

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