

BY THE FEDERAL
RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 61

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 STATES; THE HONORABLE SAM RAYBURN, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;
7 THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. NIXON, PRESIDENT OF THE
8 SENATE; THE HONORABLE WILBUR D. MILLS, CHAIRMAN, HOUSE WAYS AND
9 MEANS COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE HARRY FLOOD BYRD, CHAIRMAN, SENATE
10 FINANCE COMMITTEE; THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT AND THE HONORABLE
11 ERNEST GRUENING, SENATORS FROM ALASKA; AND THE HONORABLE RALPH J.
12 RIVERS, REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALASKA:

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

16 WHEREAS, because of the admitted need of the federal govern-
17 ment for augmented revenue during World War II, the Congress not
18 only increased many existing federal taxes but also imposed a
19 variety of additional taxes as temporary emergency measures; and

20 WHEREAS, one of these temporary emergency measures was a 10
21 percent tax on local telephone service; and

22 WHEREAS, this tax has remained in effect and now costs tele-
23 phone subscribers in the United States an estimated \$800,000,000
24 a year; and

25 WHEREAS, unless extended by the definite, affirmative action
26 of the Congress, the present emergency federal tax on telephone
27 service will expire on June 30, 1960; and

28 WHEREAS, release by the federal government of this source of
29 revenue would reduce the general tax burden borne by the citizens

1 of the several states; and

2 WHEREAS, an informal poll taken by the Executive Committee of
3 the National Conference of State Legislative Leaders disclosed
4 that the overwhelming majority of these leaders were opposed to
5 the extension of the emergency federal telephone tax;

6 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges that the Congress vote
7 against the reimposition of the federal telephone tax beyond
8 June 30, 1960.

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HJM #61 as amended

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