

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relative to requesting the Honorable  
6 Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of the  
7 Interior, to delay action on proposed  
8 withdrawals in the Kuskokwim area of  
9 Alaska until the State Legislature  
10 has had an opportunity to study the  
11 matter.

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

13 WHEREAS, an area of 2,924 square miles in two separate  
14 parcels at the mouth of the Kuskokwim River in the State of  
15 Alaska, has been requested for withdrawal as a wildlife refuge  
16 by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

17 WHEREAS, of this proposed withdrawal area of one million,  
18 eight hundred thousand acres, approximately twenty percent  
19 thereof consists of navigable waters of the State; and

20 WHEREAS, the mouth of the Kuskokwim River has been histori-  
21 cally and is presently an area wherein many of the natives of  
22 that part of Alaska find their sustenance and make their living,  
23 thus making the possibility of the Federal withdrawal a source of  
24 great alarm to the inhabitants of the area; and

25 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Alaska has had no  
26 opportunity to study the proposed withdrawal, and therefore,  
27 cannot ascertain its likely effects upon the economy and ecology  
28 of the State; and

29 WHEREAS, such a withdrawal, affecting such a large area, is

1 certain to have an impact upon the new State of Alaska, the  
2 ramifications of which impact needs must be studied in detail by  
3 the elected representatives of the people of Alaska so that an  
4 intelligent report thereon can be given and so that protest or  
5 approval thereof can be effected;

6 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the First Legislature of the  
7 State of Alaska in First Session assembled, on behalf of the  
8 people of Alaska, that the Honorable Fred A. Seaton be and he is  
9 hereby respectfully requested and memorialized to delay any final  
10 action on the proposed Kuskokwim withdrawal until the Alaska  
11 Legislature has an opportunity to study the proposal in detail  
12 and express its views thereon; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Interior, in drawing  
14 up its withdrawal order, define and delimit the navigable waters  
15 of the State of Alaska within such area so that such waters may  
16 be eliminated from such project, such waters being, in the opinion  
17 of the Legislature of the State of Alaska, not properly subject to  
18 such a Federal withdrawal; and be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be properly  
20 engrossed and thereafter transmitted to the Honorable Fred A.  
21 Seaton, Secretary of the Interior, the Honorable E. L. Bartlett  
22 and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, Senators from Alaska, the  
23 Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, Representative from Alaska, and the  
24 Honorable William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska.  
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