

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS LOGAN, SMITH  
POLLOCK, OWEN AND WEISE

2

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the fishing industry; re-

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questing a special joint congressional

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committee and emergency federal support.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA IN

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SECOND LEGISLATURE, SECOND SESSION ASSEMBLED:

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WHEREAS, the fishing industry of Alaska is in imminent

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danger of being crushed and eventually destroyed as its fisheries

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are rapidly being depleted and used beyond their capacity by the

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increasing number of Japanese fishing vessels and of neighboring

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American out-of-state fishing vessels into waters adjacent to

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Alaska; and

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WHEREAS, Alaska recognizes its fisheries are supporting an

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important element of United States foreign policy which seeks to

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aid the economic development of Japan, thus strengthening our

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ties of friendship with that nation; and

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WHEREAS, Alaskan fisheries were sadly mismanaged before

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statehood and are already weakened to the point of exhaustion by

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out-of-state exploitation, and are now forced to yield their

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harvest to Japanese fishing interests; and

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WHEREAS, the decline of Alaskan fisheries cannot serve to

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bolster United States foreign policy with Japan nor continue to

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contribute to the well-being of the people of this state; and

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WHEREAS, the destruction of the fishing industry will result

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in an enormous rate of unemployment, in the loss of a livelihood

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to thousands of citizens of this state who have no other trade,

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1 plunging the state into a great economic crisis; and

2 WHEREAS, the burden of United States foreign policy and  
3 neighboring out-of-state residents fishing in Alaska falls heavily  
4 upon the shoulders of the taxpayers of this state who watch state  
5 moneys being drained and siphoned off in a desperate attempt to  
6 protect, manage, conserve, and improve the fisheries; one of  
7 the God-given natural resources that should instead, be expanding  
8 and contributing to help build this fledgling state into one of  
9 the greatest in the Union; and

10 WHEREAS, it is strongly felt by the people of Alaska that  
11 a true, realistic and on-the-spot investigation of the fishing  
12 industry will convince the federal government that the mounting  
13 fear of Alaskans for their fishing industry is well-founded and  
14 that greater control of Japanese fishing and neighboring out-of-  
15 state fishing in waters adjacent to Alaska is essential, together  
16 with increased financial support to foster the growth of the  
17 fisheries;

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Alaska in  
19 Second Legislature, Second Session assembled that the Congress  
20 of the United States is urged to appoint a special joint congre-  
21 sional committee to investigate the Alaskan fishing industry and  
22 the necessity for federal financial support; and be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the federal government is urged to  
24 allocate emergency funds immediately, to support intense scientif-  
25 ic research programs in Alaska to aid the conservation and im-  
26 provement of these vital fisheries; and be it

27 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to  
28 the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President of the United States,  
29 the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the  
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1 Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice-President of the United States  
2 and President of the Senate; the Honorable John W. McCormack,  
3 Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Clinton  
4 P. Anderson, Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs  
5 Committee; the Honorable Herbert C. Bonner, Chairman, House  
6 Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee; the Honorable Harry F.  
7 Byrd, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee; the Honorable Wilbur  
8 D. Mills, Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee; the Honorable  
9 William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska and the members of the Alaska  
10 Delegation in Congress.

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