

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS LOGAN, SMITH
POLLOCK, OWEN AND WEISE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the fishing industry;
6 requesting a special joint con-
7 gressional committee and emer-
8 gency federal support.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA IN SECOND
10 LEGISLATURE, SECOND SESSION ASSEMBLED:

11 WHEREAS, the fishing industry of Alaska is in imminent danger
12 of being crushed and eventually destroyed as its fisheries are
13 rapidly being depleted and used beyond their capacity by the in-
14 creasing number of Russian and Japanese fishing vessels and of
15 neighboring American out-of-state fishing vessels into waters
16 adjacent to Alaska; and

17 WHEREAS, Alaska recognizes its fisheries are supporting an
18 important element of United States foreign policy which seeks to
19 aid the economic development of Japan, thus strengthening our ties
20 of friendship with that nation; and

21 WHEREAS, Alaskan fisheries were sadly mismanaged before
22 statehood and are already weakened to the point of exhaustion by
23 out-of-state exploitation, and are now forced to yield their
24 harvest to Russian and Japanese fishing interests; and

25 WHEREAS, the decline of Alaskan fisheries cannot serve to
26 bolster United States foreign policy with Japan nor continue to
27 contribute to the well-being of the people of this state; and

28 WHEREAS, the destruction of the fishing industry will result
29 in an enormous rate of unemployment, in the loss of a livelihood

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1 to thousands of citizens of this state who have no other trade,
2 plunging the state into a great economic crisis; and

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

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

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Alaska in
19 Second Legislature, Second Session assembled that the Congress of
20 the United States is urged to appoint a special joint congressional
21 committee to investigate the Alaskan fishing industry and the neces-
22 sity 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 scientific
25 research programs in Alaska to aid the conservation and improvement
26 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; the
29 Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the

1 Honorable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State; the Honorable Lyndon B.
2 Johnson, Vice-President of the United States and President of the
3 Senate; the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives; the Honorable Clinton P. Anderson, Chairman,
5 Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable Herbert
6 C. Bonner, Chairman, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee;
7 the Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee;
8 the Honorable Wilbur D. Mills, Chairman, House Ways and Means
9 Committee; the Honorable William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska and
10 the members of the Alaska Delegation in Congress.

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Passed by the Senate February 21, 1962