

BY MESSRS. BLODGETT, BINKLEY,  
JOHNSON, STALKER, HARRIS,  
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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to federal and state  
6 action regarding predator control  
7 in reindeer areas.

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

9 WHEREAS, a conflict exists among conservationists, sportsmen,  
10 and reindeer herders regarding predator control in reindeer graz-  
11 ing areas of northwestern Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS, the dispute over predator control threatens to  
13 obliterate the reindeer industry; and

14 WHEREAS, the problem of the survival of the reindeer is  
15 complicated by the fact that migrating caribou often take reindeer  
16 with them in their migrations and both species are subject to the  
17 predations of wolves; and

18 WHEREAS, it appears to be feasible, practical, and logical  
19 to keep the domesticated reindeer and the wild caribou separated  
20 by building a fence from near the mouth of the Koyuk River on the  
21 south coast of the Seward Peninsula to near the mouth of the  
22 Buckland River on the north coast of the Seward Peninsula, thereby  
23 containing the reindeer on the Seward Peninsula relatively free  
24 from the predatory wolves which follow the caribou herds, and  
25 preventing the reindeer herds from straying with the migrating  
26 caribou herds; and

27 WHEREAS, upon the completion of the fence separating the  
28 reindeer from the caribou, the predator control program in the  
29 Kotzebue area can be suspended until the balance of nature is

1 again realized;

2 BE IT RESOLVED that a joint conference of state and federal  
3 game and wildlife authorities be held on the predator control  
4 problem in consultation with reindeer herders, sportsmen groups,  
5 and game guides, and that, pending the development of a coordinat-  
6 ed program, the following action be taken by the appropriate  
7 agencies:

8 (1) The protective fence suggested in this resolution  
9 be installed across the Seward Peninsula, under the Accelerated  
10 Public Works Program;

11 (2) The state Department of Fish and Game continue its  
12 contractual arrangements with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
13 for predator control in and adjacent to the reindeer grazing  
14 areas at St. Michael, Stebbins, Unalakleet, Kotzebue, and the  
15 Seward Peninsula;

16 (3) The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service maintain a per-  
17 petual predator control program in the St. Michael-Stebbins-  
18 Unalakleet area; and

19 (4) The Department of Fish and Game, the U. S. Fish and  
20 Wildlife Service, and the reindeer herders be responsible for  
21 predator control on the Seward Peninsula and act only when the  
22 number of predatory wolves increase in number sufficient to  
23 jeopardize the reindeer; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be directed  
25 to the Honorable William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska; the Honor-  
26 able Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable  
27 Philleo Nash, U. S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs; the Honorable  
28 Clarence F. Pautzke, Commissioner, Fish and Wildlife Service; the  
29 Honorable Walter F. Kirkness, Commissioner, Department of Fish and

ALASKA  
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1 Game; and the members of the Alaska Delegation in Congress.

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