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IN THE SENATE

BY SENATOR OWEN

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Relating to protection by international law of the Dungeness and Alaska King crab.

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

WHEREAS the Convention on the Continental Shelf, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Geneva, Switzerland, in 1958, signed and ratified by the United States, provided for the exercise by a coastal state of sovereign rights in the exploitation of certain natural resources of the continental shelf; and

WHEREAS the Dungeness and Alaska King crabs, being "unable to move except in constant contact with the sea-bed," may fall within the definition of natural resources of the continental shelf found in paragraph 4 of Article 2 of the Convention, and, therefore, may be exploited by the coastal state alone; and

WHEREAS these crabs are valuable resources of the state and the United States, the exploitation of which must be carefully controlled to avoid waste and depredation; and

WHEREAS, although the rights of the coastal state are not dependent upon occupation or proclamation, yet a firm definition of these crabs as resources of the continental shelf would do much to clarify the present situation regarding the taking of them;

BE IT RESOLVED that the United States at once make a clear and public determination of the status of the Dungeness and

SJR #3