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Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE BY SENATORS HANSEN, BEGICH
SMITH, KILCHER AND HARRISON

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the creation of
6 a Department of Fisheries
7 and Oceanography

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

9 WHEREAS, the fisheries of the United States occupy an ever
10 increasing importance to the general well-being of the nation;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the power of states to adequately protect and
13 enhance the value of fisheries is clearly limited by the nature
14 of our constitutional system; and

15 WHEREAS, foreign nationals have created competitive
16 pressures which may only be met on a national scale; and

17 WHEREAS, the past lack of interest of federal authorities
18 in fisheries problems has resulted in a drop of American
19 fisheries production from second to fifth in the world market,
20 and a complete lack of aid and protection for American fishermen;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, fisheries provide a source of livelihood for
23 hundreds of thousands of American citizens deserving of constant
24 federal attention to the maintenance and improvement of the
25 industry; and

26 WHEREAS, a cabinet level Department of Fisheries and Ocean-
27 ography containing a research and management section, an economic
28 development section, and an international section is necessary to
29 deal with the scope and magnitude of the problems involved; and

1 WHEREAS, Governor William A. Egan has already requested the
2 President of the United States to make every effort toward
3 establishing such a cabinet position;

4 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska
5 joins with Governor Egan in respectfully urging the President of
6 the United States to establish a Department of Fisheries and
7 Oceanography at an early date; and be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to
9 the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President of the United States;
10 the Honorable Carl Hayden, President of the Senate; the Honorable
11 John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives; and
12 the members of the Alaska Delegation in Congress.

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