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Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS HANSEN, KILCHER  
BEGICH, SMITH AND HARRISON

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the territorial  
6 waters of Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS, the fisheries abutting the Alaska coast are of enor-  
9 mous economic value and represent the sole source of livelihood  
10 for scores of American nationals; and

11 WHEREAS, American nationals have fished for years under care-  
12 fully planned and stringent conservation regulations imposed to  
13 insure maximum sustained yield from the resource; and

14 WHEREAS, recent years have seen an increased amount of  
15 foreign fishing effort in the waters abutting the Alaska coast;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, alien fishermen fish entirely free of conservation  
18 restrictions imposed on American citizens; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States Government, charged with the  
20 obligation of protecting American fisheries from foreign en-  
21 croachment, has taken insufficient action to protect the resource  
22 either through assertion of a greater territorial belt of water  
23 than three miles or application of the so-called base line method  
24 already sanctioned for use by the International Court of Justice;  
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Governor William A. Egan of the State of Alaska has  
27 attempted unceasingly to impress upon the United States Govern-  
28 ment the gravity of intrusions by foreign nationals into waters  
29 historically considered American and the necessity of

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1 establishing a broad claim to waters adjoining the Alaska coast;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the governor, faced with the complete lack of action  
4 on the part of the United States Government, has acted coura-  
5 geously in protecting the fisheries of Alaska through state action  
6 when circumstances required;

7 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska  
8 offers its commendation to Governor William A. Egan for his past  
9 action, and vigorously urges the United States Government to act  
10 quickly in establishing broad water areas adjoining the Alaska  
11 coast as subject solely to United States sovereignty; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to  
13 the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President of the United States;  
14 the Honorable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State; the Honorable Stewart  
15 L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Lyndon B.  
16 Johnson, President of the Senate; the Honorable John W. McCormack,  
17 Speaker of the House; the Honorable William A. Egan, Governor of  
18 Alaska; and the members of the Alaska Delegation in Congress.

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