

Introduced: 2/28/63
Referred: Commerce

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the negotiation and
6 award of the Pribilof fur seal
7 processing contract by the
8 federal government.

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

10 WHEREAS, the harvest and processing of Pribilof fur seals
11 under the management of the federal government constitutes an
12 important industry and source of revenue to the state which may
13 amount to nearly a million dollars annually; and

14 WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of the
15 federal government, awards the contract for the processing of
16 these fur seal pelts; and

17 WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior has recently invited
18 contract negotiations by private companies; and

19 WHEREAS, the price of the fur seal pelts sold at internation-
20 al public auctions is determined by the quality of the skins, the
21 care and method of processing, and the integrity and world-wide
22 reputation of the processing company; and

23 WHEREAS, a contract on an experimental basis or with a com-
24 pany of unknown reputation can drastically upset the marketing of
25 the fur seal pelts and thus is a gamble, in effect, with monies
26 destined for the people of this state; and

27 WHEREAS, the Fouke Fur Company of Greenville, South Carolina,
28 has been processing the Pribilof fur seal since the first harvest
29 in 1916; and

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1 WHEREAS, this company specializes in fur seal processing
2 exclusively and is the only company to do so; and

3 WHEREAS, the Fouke Fur Company has achieves a distinguished
4 international reputation, not only by processing fur seal skins
5 for the federal government alone, but in fur seal processing for
6 the Canadian and Japanese Governments as well; and

7 WHEREAS, this company's marketing experience and special
8 techniques in fur seal processing have increased the sale value
9 of Pribilof fur seal pelts setting a most desirable standard for
10 others to follow; and

11 WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the state and federal
12 government that the qualifications of a company awarded the fur
13 seal processing contract meet or exceed the high and stringent
14 standards set by the Fouke Fur Company to assure the continuation
15 of the high prices paid and the demand for the Pribilof fur seal;

16 BE IT RESOLVED that the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secre-
17 tary of the Interior, is urged to award the Pribilof fur seal
18 processing contract to a company with the proven qualifications
19 of the Fouke Fur Company of Greenville, South Carolina, or in the
20 event that other companies cannot qualify, to award the contract
21 once again to the Fouke Fur Company; and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska respectfully re-
23 quests the Secretary of the Interior to permit a qualified expert
24 from the State Department of Fish and Game to attend the Pribilof
25 fur seal processing contract negotiations; and be it

26 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to
27 the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President of the United States;
28 the Honorable James K. Carr, Under Secretary of the Interior; and
29 the Alaska Delegation in Congress.