

Introduced: 2/28/63
Referred: Commerce

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the negotiation and

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award of the Pribilof fur seal

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processing contract by the

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federal government.

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

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WHEREAS, the harvest and processing of Pribilof fur seals

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under the management of the federal government constitutes an

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important industry and source of revenue to the state which may

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amount to nearly a million dollars annually; and

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WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of the

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federal government, awards the contract for the processing of

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these fur seal pelts; and

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WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior has recently invited

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contract negotiations by private companies; and

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WHEREAS, the price of the fur seal pelts sold at international

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public auctions is determined by the quality of the skins, the

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care and method of processing, and the integrity and world-wide

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reputation of the processing company; and

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WHEREAS, a contract on an experimental basis or with a company of

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unknown reputation can drastically upset the marketing of the fur

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seal pelts and thus is a gamble, in effect, with monies destined

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for the people of this state; and

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WHEREAS, the Fouke Fur Company of Greenville, South Carolina,

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has been processing the Pribilof fur seal since the first harvest

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in 1916; and

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 achieved 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, Secretary
17 of the Interior, is urged to award the Pribilof fur seal processing
18 contract to a company with the proven qualifications of the Fouke
19 Fur Company of Greenville, South Carolina, or in the event that
20 other companies cannot qualify, to award the contract once again
21 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 person
24 to be appointed by the Governor to attend the Pribilof fur seal
25 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.