

Introduced: 2/14/64
Referred: Commerce

BY SENATORS HANSEN, BEGICH, HOPSON,
PERATROVICH, HARRISON, KILCHER,
NOLAN, OWEN, SMITH, BRADSHAW, HALL,
McNEALY, WALSH, FOSTER AND BRONSON

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 55

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to hearings of the
6 United States Tariff Commis-
7 sion as regards tariffs on
8 fish.

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

10 WHEREAS, tariffs on fish and fish products are among items
11 to be considered by the United States Tariff Commission during
12 hearings to determine the probable effect upon industry of
13 modifications to the existing tariff structure; and

14 WHEREAS, the per capita consumption of fish and fish products
15 in the United States has remained relatively stable since 1948;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the extent of the domestic market supplied by fish
18 and fish products of foreign origin increased from 20 per cent
19 in 1948 to more than 40 per cent in 1961; and

20 WHEREAS, the value of fish and fish products imported for
21 domestic consumption in 1961 reached a record high of \$397,000,000
22 as compared with exports of fish and fish products by the United
23 States during the same year of but \$35,000,000, a decline of 21
24 per cent from the preceding year; and

25 WHEREAS, from 1956 to 1961 the United States dropped from
26 second to fifth in rank among the fishing nations of the world;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, American fishermen and processors are caught in a
29 vise between low-cost foreign imports and higher operating costs;

SJR 55 engrossed with
additional sponsor

1 and

2 WHEREAS, vast fleets of foreign fishing vessels are operating
3 adjacent to United States territorial waters, thus jeopardizing
4 historic United States fisheries and the continued success of
5 conservation programs undertaken to assure their perpetuation;

6 and

7 WHEREAS, reductions in the tariffs on fish and fish products
8 would encourage further expansion of the activities of these
9 foreign fishing fleets in traditional United States fisheries; and

10 WHEREAS, the plight of the United States fishing industry
11 has been clearly shown to dictate a critical need for tariff
12 protection;

13 BE IT RESOLVED that the United States Tariff Commission is
14 respectfully requested to make a finding that the existing
15 tariff on fish and fish products constitutes the peril point, and
16 if further reduced would jeopardize the fishing industry in the
17 United States; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson,
19 President of the United States, is respectfully requested to
20 make no reduction in existing tariffs on fish and fish products;
21 and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be
23 sent to the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United
24 States; the Honorable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State; the Honor-
25 able Ben D. Dorfman, Chairman of the United States Tariff Com-
26 mission; and to the members of the Alaska congressional dele-
27 gation.

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