

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Protesting the crippling of the
6 program of the U.S. Bureau of Mines
7 in Alaska.

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

9 WHEREAS the Department of the Interior has announced a
10 decision to all but eliminate the operation of its Bureau of
11 Mines in Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS the decision involves the reduction of the work
13 force in Alaska from 26 to six persons and the elimination of its
14 two-man safety force in Anchorage; and

15 WHEREAS it is well established that what Alaska needs is
16 more and not less resource development and safety support from
17 the Bureau of Mines; and

18 WHEREAS the physical investigation of mineral deposits in
19 Alaska is abnormally costly and what little progress has been
20 made to exploit the vast mineral potential of the state has been
21 due to the modest program of the Bureau of Mines in Alaska; and

22 WHEREAS the increasing interest and activity in hard rock
23 mining in Alaska require that the investigatory and safety pro-
24 gram of the Bureau of Mines in Alaska be expanded rather than
25 diminished;

26 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska
27 most earnestly protests the plans of the Department of the
28 Interior to essentially eliminate the investigatory and safety
29 programs of the Bureau of Mines in Alaska and urgently requests

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1 the Secretary of the Interior to cancel those plans and re-examine
2 the desperate need for an expansion of the program of the Bureau
3 of Mines in Alaska; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be directed
5 to the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior;
6 the Honorable Frank C. Memmott, Acting Director of the Bureau of
7 Mines; and the members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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