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Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FRITZ

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the preservation of
6 the polar bear in Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS the hunting and photographing of polar bear is a major attrac-
9 tion for many Alaskans and visitors to Alaska; and

10 WHEREAS the hunting of polar bear by airplanes, snow vehicles, and land
11 motor vehicles and the establishing and supplying of camps by these means con-
12 stitutes a serious threat to the continued existence of the polar bear; and

13 WHEREAS the financial resources of many guides makes it impossible for
14 them to own and operate aircraft and to compete with more wealthy guides in
15 the hunting of polar bear; and

16 WHEREAS the interest in breeding of sled dogs and the manufacture of dog
17 sleds is increasing not only in Alaska but in other states as well; and

18 WHEREAS making it illegal to hunt polar bear by means other than dog
19 drawn sleds would preserve the animal, make it possible for guides of all
20 races and economic status to compete on an equal basis, and encourage sled
21 dog breeding and the design and construction of dog sleds;

22 BE IT RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to direct the
23 Department of Fish and Game to prepare a report outlining the approaches used
24 by other nations in preserving polar bear, and gathering the opinions of reg-
25 istered guides on this problem, and determining what effect the prohibition
26 of the use of aircraft, snow and land vehicles in the hunting of polar bear
27 would have on the people and economy of northwestern Alaska and the preserva-
28 tion of the bear, and to present this report to the next legislature.

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