

Introduced: 2/11/69  
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE BY BOARDMAN

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Opposing the proposed treaty to  
6 surrender U. S. sovereignty over the  
7 Canal Zone and the Panama Canal.

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

9 WHEREAS for 66 years the United States has maintained complete  
10 sovereignty over a zone of land across the Isthmus of Panama known as the  
11 Panama Canal Zone; and

12 WHEREAS the Panama Canal represents a total United States investment,  
13 to date, of nearly 5 billion dollars, and is a vital strategic asset of the  
14 United States for hemispheric defense and our national security; and

15 WHEREAS the Panama Canal has extreme economic significance to the  
16 United States, since 70 per cent of traffic through the canal either origi-  
17 nates or terminates in United States ports, and canal operations represent  
18 a net gain for United States balance of payments of more than 40 million  
19 dollars annually; and

20 WHEREAS representatives of the United States and the Republic of  
21 Panama are in the process of negotiating a treaty or treaties which, if  
22 approved, would abrogate the 1903 treaty, and eliminate all known rights,  
23 power, and authority of the United States in the Canal Zone;

24 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth Alaska State Legislature opposes the  
25 relinquishing by the United States of its existing rights, powers and  
26 authority over the Canal Zone and the Panama Canal.

27 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.  
28 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John W. Mc McCormack,  
29 Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard B. Russell,

1 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and  
2 the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Howard W.  
3 Pollock, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29