

Introduced: 3/6/70
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 106

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the establishment of a
6 National Institute of Environmental
7 Science in Alaska.

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

9 WHEREAS, with singleness of purpose and unflagging zeal, man has for
10 generations devoted himself and his talents to the attainment of a material
11 wealth sufficient to sustain human life and well-being; and

12 WHEREAS, in his quest, man has discovered that natural wealth can be
13 extracted from his environment and, through the intervention of his genius,
14 applied to meet his material needs; and

15 WHEREAS, hastened by the pressure of his increasing numbers and the
16 promise of a bountiful life, man has developed an advanced technology
17 intentionally designed to exploit the resources of his earth and labor and
18 coincidentally designed to return to earth the wastes of industry and
19 affluence; and

20 WHEREAS, man has now awakened with concern to find himself custodian
21 of a ravaged land, surrounded by poisoned waters and enveloped in
22 contaminated air; and

23 WHEREAS, while the environmental blight and pollution caused by man
24 and his science cannot long sustain either man or his science, neither can
25 the appetites and aspirations of an exploding world population tolerate
26 abatement of man's efforts to provide for his material well-being; and

27 WHEREAS, it is the imperative goal of the new science of the environment
28 to determine how man can utilize, without damaging, the earth's natural
29 resources; and

1 WHEREAS, the task before this new science is of an urgency which no
2 longer advocates but compels the establishment of a National Institute of
3 Environmental Science to provide the coordination of effort and dissemina-
4 tion of information essential to the restoration and maintenance of a
5 wholesome and productive environment; and

6 WHEREAS, Alaska offers this Institute a laboratory unavailable else-
7 where in the world; a laboratory vast in size and rich in the resources of
8 nature; a laboratory of broad climatic, geographic, geologic, botanic and
9 zoological expanse; a laboratory embracing the full range of environmental
10 conditions to which man must adapt as he addresses himself to the develop-
11 ment of the virtually untapped wealth of the North;

12 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska requests the
13 President and Congress of the United States to establish in Alaska a
14 National Institute of Environmental Sciences to initiate a continuing
15 program of research to insure that man uses his natural resources in a
16 manner consistent with a quality environment; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to appoint a panel of
18 concerned Alaskans to compile information that will enable the President and
19 the Congress to assess the need for, and the benefits to be derived from,
20 a National Institute of Environmental Sciences in Alaska; and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska pledges her support,
22 cooperation and assistance to the establishment of a National Institute of
23 Environmental Sciences in Alaska.

24 COPIES of this resolution are to be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
25 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John W. McCormack,
26 Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard B. Russell,
27 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable Walter J. Hickel,
28 Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Clifford M. Hardin, Secretary of
29 Agriculture; the Honorable Maurice H. Stans, Secretary of Commerce; the

1 Honorable Robert H. Finch, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; and
2 to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, United States
3 Senators, and to the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, United States Representa-
4 tive, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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