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Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting that the International Re-
6 mote Sensing Institute endorse Alaska
7 as a "national laboratory" for the
8 utilization of its remote sensing
9 programs.

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

11 WHEREAS Alaska has 65 per cent of the Continental Shelf of the United
12 States, 53 per cent of the general coastline of the United States and a land
13 area of 586,400 square miles; and

14 WHEREAS the minerals of Alaska are truly a national asset and a new
15 appraisal of policy toward them is definitely needed; and

16 WHEREAS the immense renewable and nonrenewable resources of Alaska's
17 continental shelf have not been identified; and

18 WHEREAS the interior forests of the state could make major contributions
19 to the economic well-being of the state and, as a renewable resource, are
20 capable of repeated contribution in the future; and

21 WHEREAS the development of all of Alaska's varied natural resources
22 would yield substantial but incalculable returns to the state and nation; and

23 WHEREAS the national economy would greatly benefit in its balance of
24 payments position by increasing exports from Alaska, and decreasing raw
25 material imports from other nations; and

26 WHEREAS numerous agencies, including the United States Departments of
27 Defense, Agriculture, Interior, and Health, Education and Welfare, and the
28 Alaska Departments of Highways, Natural Resources, and Fish and Game, are
29 carrying on separate programs to identify the physical assets of Alaska for

1 such purposes as mining, land management, recreation, water, fisheries,
2 agri-resources, defense strategy, pollution, conservation and timber; and

3 WHEREAS new techniques in remote sensing are available which make it
4 possible not only to survey and map vast areas in comparatively little time
5 for the purposes of the various governmental programs being carried on now
6 by conventional means, but also to acquire knowledge about other facets of
7 our total environment which have been impossible to determine by conventional
8 means; and

9 WHEREAS Alaska cannot effectively plan for the wise and comprehensive
10 use of its natural wealth without an inventory;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth State Legislature requests that the
12 International Remote Sensing Institute, in their annual meeting at
13 Sacramento, endorse Alaska as the "national laboratory" for the utilization
14 of remote sensing for the betterment of man and his environment and so that
15 all the biological, geophysical and geological characteristics of the state
16 can be identified.

17 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to Vern Cartwright, President
18 of the International Remote Sensing Institute and to Robin Welch, Managing
19 Director of the Institute.
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