

Introduced: 3/9/71
Referred: Labor & Management

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE LABOR AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 46

SCS

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the suspension of the
6 Davis-Bacon Act.

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

8 WHEREAS President Nixon has recently announced the suspension of certain
9 provisions of the 40-year-old Davis-Bacon Act which requires the United
10 States government to pay prevailing wages on federal construction projects;
11 and

12 WHEREAS suspension of these provisions will most likely result in
13 shifting a large amount of federal construction to lower-paid nonunion
14 workers; and

15 WHEREAS the prime purpose of the Davis-Bacon Act is to assure that
16 workers are paid the "prevailing wage" on federal projects in an area, and
17 usually the "prevailing wage" is the union rate in the area; and

18 WHEREAS many persons have migrated to Alaska already in search of
19 nonexistent jobs, and these persons would work at any wage level, thus
20 lowering the wage and living standards of Alaska; and

21 WHEREAS almost all work performed by the building trades in Alaska is
22 done by local contractors who are parties to union contracts; and

23 WHEREAS there exists the possibility of an influx into Alaska of
24 "outside" contractors who would pay a substandard nonunion wage which would
25 further cause extreme hardship and unemployment among Alaska's resident
26 workers; and

27 WHEREAS the President is authorized only "in the event of a national
28 emergency" to suspend the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act and the last
29 time it had been suspended since its passage in 1931 was during World War II;

1 and

2 WHEREAS this action will undermine fair labor standards for workers
3 in the construction industry;

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the President is
5 urgently requested to immediately rescind his order which suspended the
6 provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act.

7 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
8 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable James D. Hodgson,
9 Secretary, Department of Labor; the Honorable John B. Connally, Secretary,
10 Department of the Treasury; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
11 Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S.
12 Representative members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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