

Introduced: 3/12/71  
Referred: State Affairs

BY ORBECK, HUBER, E. MILLER,  
AND BRADNER

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 53

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to certain lands of the  
6 Athabascan Indians in the Tok area.

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

8 WHEREAS the Athabascan Indians now living at Tanacross may be forced  
9 to relocate due to erosion caused by the Tanana River; and

10 WHEREAS, although their ancestral home has long been located at  
11 Mansfield Lake, if forced to return there it would result in their increased  
12 isolation and make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to participate  
13 in the community life of Tok and avail themselves of the facilities at Tok;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS a move, if required, to Mansfield Lake would, most importantly,  
16 have an adverse effect on the education and welfare of their children; and

17 WHEREAS, although a move back to Mansfield Lake would not be in the  
18 best interests of these Alaskans, it is still vitally important that their  
19 ancestral grounds be protected and preserved for them;

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the appropriate state  
21 and federal officials are urged to do all that is necessary to grant the  
22 Athabascans title to their ancestral grounds at Mansfield Lake; and be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED that they be allotted sufficient lands for a new  
24 village site on the Tok side of the Tanana River so that they may avail  
25 themselves of educational and other facilities at Tok.

26 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Rogers C. B.  
27 Morton, Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Honorable Louis R. Bruce,  
28 Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs; the Honorable Boyd L. Rasmussen,  
29 Director, Bureau of Land Management; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and

1 the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich,  
2 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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