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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 57

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the protection of

6 North Pacific waters and shore

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

8 WHEREAS the State of Alaska is bordered by 60 per cent of the shore-
9 line of the United States and for these many years those waters have
10 generously yielded to the citizens of Alaska and the world its most generous
11 harvest; and

12 WHEREAS the State of Alaska is vitally concerned that her coastal zones
13 be protected to the greatest degree possible; and

14 WHEREAS the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and the
15 Canadian province of British Columbia are bound together by their common
16 coastlines on these waters and share their yield; and

17 WHEREAS any major disaster at sea would have the potential to adversely
18 affect the waters and shorelines of all; and

19 WHEREAS there is considerable transport by tankers of petroleum products
20 between the ports of the United States and Canada, and also inbound to the
21 ports of Canada and the United States from foreign nations; and

22 WHEREAS the State of Washington recently enacted pioneering legislation
23 dealing with the liability for petroleum spillage at sea, and there has been
24 introduced into the Alaska Legislature legislation of a similar nature; and

25 WHEREAS the good citizens of British Columbia have expressed concern
26 over the problems of marine transit of petroleum products in the North
27 Pacific, and the citizens of California have recently suffered misfortune
28 in their waters through the collision of petroleum tankers in San Francisco
29 Bay; and

1 WHEREAS it would appear that our common stake in the protection of the
2 North Pacific, our common need for the transit of needed yet volatile
3 products, and the fact that a threat to the waters of any state or province
4 bordering the North Pacific must inevitably become a threat to the others,
5 point to the necessity of seeking common solutions to the potential
6 or current problems involved; and

7 WHEREAS the Legislature of the State of Alaska has recently created a
8 select committee charged with the capacity of meeting with our neighbors
9 of the North Pacific to explore on a common basis solutions to these common
10 problems;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the legislative
12 bodies of British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and California to designate
13 some group that might meet with the representatives of the others in the
14 near future to search out the potential for a common approach for the
15 security of neighboring coasts through the development of a NORTH PACIFIC
16 MARINE TRANSIT AND COASTAL PROTECTION COMPACT.

17 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Speaker of the House
18 of Representatives and the President of the Senate of Washington, California
19 and Oregon; and to the Parliament of British Columbia.
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