

Introduced: 4/24/71
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY M. MILLER, PERATROVICH
WHITTAKER AND FISCHER

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the creation of

6

federal subsidies for commercial

7

fishermen.

8

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

9

WHEREAS agricultural subsidies are and have been recognized as vital

10

and substantive programs bolstering and strengthening the economy of the

11

United States in general, and of agricultural areas of the nation in parti-

12

cular; and

13

WHEREAS these agricultural subsidies were and are justified on the

14

grounds that when an agricultural resource user is prohibited by government

15

from harvesting a resource the government has a moral and economic obliga-

16

tion to reimburse the user for his economic loss due to such prohibition; and

17

WHEREAS these subsidies have saved uncounted thousands of Americans

18

from financial crisis and bankruptcy; and

19

WHEREAS there is an obvious and direct parallel between agricultural

20

harvests of the land and commercial harvests of the sea; and

21

WHEREAS state and federal governments, for good and necessary reasons

22

of conservation, economics and foreign policy, restrain the harvesting of

23

products of the sea by American commercial fishermen; and

24

WHEREAS, as farmers did before the advent of federal agricultural

25

subsidies, American fishermen are faced today with economic crises of dis-

26

astrous proportions, primarily because it is necessary to restrain or pro-

27

hibit the harvesting of fisheries resources;

28

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the federal Congress and

29

the federal Executive are urged to initiate a program of subsidies for

1 commercial fishermen comparable in concept to existing agricultural programs,
2 to the effect that when a state or nation prohibits the harvest of sea
3 resources, the harvester may be reimbursed for the rewards he could and
4 would have earned in the absence of this prohibition.

5 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
6 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton,
7 Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Presidents of the Senate and the
8 Speakers of the House of Washington, Oregon, California, Maine, Massachusetts,
9 Louisiana, Maryland and South Carolina; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens
10 and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich,
11 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29