

Original sponsor: Peratrovich

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Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
2 SENATE CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 89  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to participation by  
6 Alaska in the Conference on the  
7 Law of the Sea.

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

9 WHEREAS an International Conference on the Law of the Sea is scheduled  
10 to be held in Geneva in 1973 and any agreement reached by the conference  
11 will have a deep and profound influence on Alaskan fisheries for generations  
12 to come; and

13 WHEREAS the preliminary proposals by the Department of State appear  
14 to offer little protection for either our national or Alaskan fisheries; and

15 WHEREAS our coastal fishery resources are being seriously depleted due  
16 largely to the effect of unregulated foreign fishing conducted without  
17 regard to sound conservation principles; and

18 WHEREAS conservation is urgently needed, both to maintain our fishery  
19 resources on a sustainable yield basis and to secure a sound economic future  
20 for our state's and nation's fisheries; and

21 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has, of all 50 states, the largest coast-  
22 line, measuring 5,580 statute miles or 45 per cent of our nation's total  
23 coastline and 31,383 statute miles of tidal shoreline; and

24 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has innumerable fishing ports and villages,  
25 one of which, Kodiak, is the second largest fishing port in the entire  
26 United States; and

27 WHEREAS the fisheries industry, and fisheries related services, provide  
28 Alaska's largest source of income, having a total value of more than  
29 \$200,000,000 annually; and

1       WHEREAS our fisheries industry is the largest seasonal employer of  
2 Alaska's citizens; and

3       WHEREAS representation in the Department of State delegation to the  
4 Conference on the Law of the Sea does not officially include the State of  
5 Alaska; and

6       WHEREAS a state which has nearly half of the total coastline of the  
7 entire United States should most certainly have representation at a confer-  
8 ence which so vitally affects its major industry and substantial source of  
9 livelihood and state revenue;

10       BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the President of the  
11 United States is respectfully requested to direct the Department of State to  
12 include representation from the State of Alaska, considering its major signi-  
13 ficance as a fishery in the United States, in the delegation to the Conference  
14 on the Law of the Sea to be held in Geneva in 1973; and be it

15       FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of Alaska's participation, the  
16 Secretary of State notify the governor immediately so that he can select and  
17 appoint legal and technical experts and an advisory committee of appropriate  
18 persons who are both knowledgeable in state fisheries matters and representa-  
19 tive of Alaska's coastal areas, and take whatever action is necessary to  
20 assure their participation to the Law of the Sea Conference in 1973; and be  
21 it

22       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of State also be directed to con-  
23 duct hearings before August 31, 1972 for the purpose of obtaining testimony  
24 from the citizens of Alaska on matters in which they are so deeply and  
25 personally involved, in Juneau, the capital city of the state; in Kodiak, the  
26 largest fisheries port in the state; in Anchorage, the largest city in the  
27 state and center of transportation and commerce; and in Fairbanks, site of  
28 the University of Alaska's Institute of Marine Research; and that this testi-  
29 mony be used in preparation of the position of the United States on proposals

1 affecting fisheries of the United States and particularly of Alaska which  
2 will be considered at the conference.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.  
4 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Spiro T. Agnew, Vice  
5 President of the United States; the Honorable William P. Rogers, Secretary,  
6 Department of State; the Honorable Peter G. Peterson, Secretary Designate,  
7 Department of Commerce; the Honorable J. W. Fulbright, Chairman, Senate  
8 Foreign Relations Committee; the Honorable Thomas E. Morgan, Chairman, House  
9 Foreign Affairs Committee; the Honorable Ronald Reagan, Governor, State of  
10 California; the Honorable Dan Evans, Governor, State of Washington; the  
11 Honorable Tom McCall, Governor, State of Oregon; and to the Honorable Ted  
12 Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick  
13 Begich, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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