

Introduced: 3/8/71  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the taking of polar

6 bear with the aid or use of aircraft.

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

8 WHEREAS the polar bear is uniquely an "international" animal whose  
9 continued existence is a concern to all nations; and

10 WHEREAS biologists disagree as to the stability of its population and  
11 its migration patterns, it is universally acknowledged in any case that  
12 the majority of polar bears are found outside our state jurisdiction; and

13 WHEREAS, due to these and other reasons, many nations of the world have  
14 banned sport hunting of polar bear; and

15 WHEREAS Alaska's management standard of "maximum sustained yield",  
16 without limiting the common mode of aircraft hunting, is resulting in an  
17 alarmingly high illegal take of bears; and

18 WHEREAS, due to aircraft hunter mobility in conjunction with the vast  
19 geographic areas to be covered and the adverse weather conditions of polar  
20 bear habitat, effective enforcement of existing law is impossible; and

21 WHEREAS notwithstanding all of the above, current scientific studies  
22 and tagging programs being undertaken by the Department of Fish and Game  
23 require harvesting for an additional two seasons to be made under existing  
24 law;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh Alaska State Legislature respectfully  
26 requests that the Board of Fish and Game promulgate regulations in 1971  
27 banning the taking of polar bear with the aid or use of aircraft in any  
28 manner in any year following the year that an apparently illegal take of  
29 polar bear has occurred, or if scientific studies and tagging programs of

1 the Department of Fish and Game deem it necessary for the management of the  
2 species.

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