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Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY JOSEPHSON, BRADSHAW, CROFT,
CHRISTIANSEN, HENSLEY, MERDES,
POLAND, RADER, RAY AND ZIEGLER

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting the withdrawal of any
6 federal revenue sharing proposal which
7 would operate inequitably on Alaska.

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

9 WHEREAS Alaska, the 49th state, is unique in the Union for its promise
10 and potential, but also for its presently severe and chronic unemployment
11 and high cost of living; and

12 WHEREAS Alaska is properly receiving, relative to federal taxes paid by
13 Alaskans, a proportion of federal spending which is greater than the propor-
14 tion received in other jurisdictions, but federal spending in Alaska has
15 been fully justified by considerations of national security; recognition of
16 many years during which Alaska suffered discrimination as a territory in
17 the administration of federal programs; the fact that Alaska is a public
18 land state in which almost all land remains under the control of the federal
19 government and not subject to state or local taxation, and other factors;
20 and

21 WHEREAS the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States,
22 has proposed a so-called revenue sharing program by which drastic changes
23 in the fiscal relations of our federal system are contemplated; and

24 WHEREAS the Honorable Wilbur Mills, Chairman of the Ways and Means
25 Committee of the United States House of Representatives has analyzed the
26 proposals of the President and has pointed out that if present expenditures
27 of the federal government are cut back to provide funds for so-called
28 revenue sharing, and all present expenditures are cut back proportionately,
29 Alaska would lose substantial federal revenue input and could lose twice as

1 much from revenue sharing proposed by President Nixon as it would gain; and

2 WHEREAS Alaska would likewise be among the states most severely hurt if
3 categorical aid programs are reduced by the amount of revenue sharing; and

4 WHEREAS any revenue sharing formula in which population or per capita
5 distribution is a major factor is necessarily inequitable as to a state like
6 Alaska which has high costs, high unemployment, and accumulated needs as a
7 result of past neglect and discrimination;

8 BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh Alaska State Legislature respectfully
9 requests the President of the United States to withdraw any administration
10 proposal for a revenue sharing program which would result in serious in-
11 equity to Alaska, by curtailing or eliminating vital existing aid and assis-
12 tance programs through the allocation of funds on the basis of formulas
13 such as per capita distribution which fail to fairly consider the unique
14 make-up and problems of the state.

15 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
16 Nixon, President of the United States; to the Honorable Spiro Agnew, Vice
17 President of the United States and President of the U. S. Senate; to the
18 Honorable Carl Albert, Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives; to the
19 Honorable Wilbur Mills, Chairman of the U. S. House Ways and Means Committee;
20 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S.
21 Senators, and to the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of
22 the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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