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Referred: State Affairs

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1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the proposed North Slope

6

pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez.

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

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WHEREAS construction of the proposed North Slope pipeline from Prudhoe
9 Bay to Valdez is, according to the draft of the Environmental Impact State-
10 ment of the Department of the Interior, in the national interest because

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(1) development of the petroleum reserves of the North Slope is essential to
12 the growth, strength, and security of the United States, and (2) the pipe-
13 line would provide the earliest and most practicable means of delivering the
14 oil to market; and

15

WHEREAS the pipeline must be built promptly so that the state will
16 have sufficient financial resources for the vitally needed development of
17 human resources and for the strict environmental control programs; and

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WHEREAS the construction of the pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez is,
19 according to W. J. Levy, in Alaska's best interest because this pipeline
20 would

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(1) result in earlier construction as compared with alternate
22 routes with an increase in Alaskan employment and a stimulation of its
23 economy,

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(2) result in the maximum output of Alaskan oil to meet the energy
25 needs of the United States,

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(3) enhance development of future oil and gas fields in Alaska,

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(4) retain public regulatory control by the State of Alaska and
28 the United States over tariffs and means of transportation of Alaska's oil;
29 and

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1 WHEREAS risks to Alaska's environment can be precluded by insistence on
2 compliance with federal and state regulations and technical specifications;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, while it has been asserted that comparisons of alternative
5 means of transport have been insufficient to demonstrate conclusively which
6 method best meets the above objectives, the bulk of the credible testimony
7 on the adequacy of the Environmental Impact Report indicated that the pipe-
8 line can be built safely and in such a manner as to protect the environment;

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Alaska as a sover-
10 eign state should determine the location where oil and gas leave the state
and that Alaska is prepared to cooperate in the enforcement of existing as
well as future federal and state stipulations, regulations and requirements
13 relative to environmental safeguards in conformity with the highest possible
14 standards; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urgently requests the Department
16 of the Interior to issue the pipeline permit from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez in
17 the most expeditious manner possible.

18 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
19 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton,
20 Secretary, Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and
21 the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich,
22 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.