

Introduced: 4/19/71  
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY POLAND

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the planned nuclear test

6 "Cannikin".

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

8 WHEREAS it has been announced that the Atomic Energy Commission is  
9 planning a nuclear test this fall on Amchitka Island of a magnitude approach-  
10 ing five megatons; and

11 WHEREAS a briefing by AEC officials with the state on the planned test  
12 "Cannikin" failed to fully treat the matter of public hearings on the planned  
13 blast under provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act; and

14 WHEREAS a test of this magnitude and of such far-reaching importance  
15 should be the subject of public hearings prior to the insertion of any con-  
16 clusions in a final environmental impact statement; and

17 WHEREAS public hearings in Alaska would seem to be clearly intended  
18 under guidelines laid down for implementation of the National Environmental  
19 Policy Act wherein it is stated: "These proceedings shall include, whenever  
20 appropriate, provisions for public hearings, and shall provide the public  
21 with relevant information, including information on alternative courses of  
22 action"; and

23 WHEREAS a federal project of this kind should receive at a minimum, the  
24 same scrutiny and consideration under the National Environmental Policy Act  
25 as state projects; and

26 WHEREAS the Governor of Alaska has requested the federal government to  
27 hold public hearings in Alaska on this matter and has requested notification  
28 of the Alaska hearing dates at the earliest possible time;

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that it strongly endorses the

1 Governor's request for public hearings on project "Cannikin" in Alaska, and  
2 issues its own urgent request to the federal government to comply with this  
3 request, which is a necessity if the environmental impact on Alaska of  
4 project "Cannikin" is to be thoroughly assessed.

5 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.  
6 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Russell Train, Chairman,  
7 Federal Council of Environmental Quality; the Honorable William D.  
8 Ruckelshaus, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; the Honorable  
9 Robert E. Miller, Manager, Nevada Operations Office, Atomic Energy Commission,  
10 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S.  
11 Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of the  
12 Alaska delegation in Congress.

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