

Introduced: 1/30/73
Referred: State Affairs and
Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SPECKING

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to United States Coast Guard
6 personnel and facilities in Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS during 1972 President Nixon ordered the United States Coast
9 Guard to reduce its manpower; and

10 WHEREAS rumors currently are rampant that due to additional budget
11 reductions on the national level, the United States Coast Guard may be
12 further cut back from even maintaining its present strength; and

13 WHEREAS continuously for many years Alaska has requested for and needs
14 more Coast Guard vessels and men in order to adequately patrol our vast
15 coastlines, protect our fisheries from the blatant intrusion of foreign
16 vessels, and perform its never-ending search and rescue operations; and

17 WHEREAS, for instance, with any additional budget reductions for the
18 Coast Guard Alaska stands to lose a vessel currently stationed in Seward, and
19 a desperately needed helicopter based in Cordova will not be received until
20 1976; and

21 WHEREAS, instead of any further reductions in Coast Guard manpower,
22 facilities, and capability, Alaska is desperately in need of more fisheries
23 surveillance and search and rescue operations, the present complement of
24 Coast Guard equipment in Alaska being totally inadequate to ensure the
25 sanctity of our waters and resources and protection of our lives and property.

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that it protests vigorously any
27 planned reduction of Coast Guard manpower or deactivation of enforcement ships
28 when Alaska is in urgent need of additional Coast Guard patrol capabilities
29 in Alaska; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Coast Guard is respectfully
2 urged to immediately plan for and request of the United States Congress
3 increased funding for the general overall upgrading of Coast Guard capability,
4 especially in Alaska; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the President is respectfully requested to direct
6 the Office of Budget and Management to release all impounded funds for the
7 Coast Guard; and be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States is urged to
9 approve at the earliest possible time all appropriations and plans submitted
10 to it for the general upgrading of Coast Guard services, especially as they
11 pertain to Alaska.

12 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
13 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John A. Volpe, Secretary
14 Department of Transportation; Admiral Chester R. Bender, Commandant, United
15 States Coast Guard; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike
16 Gravel, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.