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Referred: Resources

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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 32

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the banning of certain
6 imported fish.

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

8 WHEREAS information has become available indicating that Japanese fisher
9 men have taken substantial amounts of halibut from the Bering Sea east of the
10 abstention line set up by the International North Pacific Fisheries Conven-
11 tion with trawling gear in areas designated for hook and line fishing only;
12 and

13 WHEREAS the information also indicates that the Japanese have fished
14 this area throughout the year when the area was officially open for halibut
15 fishing only 21 days; and

16 WHEREAS imports of halibut filets from the Japanese indicate that the
17 size of the fish being taken by the Japanese is also in violation of the
18 International North Pacific Fisheries Convention; and

19 WHEREAS the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967 states that the Secretary
20 of Commerce shall certify facts to the President if foreign fishermen are
21 conducting fishing operations in a manner or under circumstances which dimin-
22 ish the effectiveness of an international fishery conservation program; and

23 WHEREAS the President may direct the Secretary of the Treasury to pro-
24 hibit the bringing or the importation into the United States of fish products
25 of an offending country for a period of time as he determines is appropriate;

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the Secretary of Commerce
27 is urgently requested to certify to the President the facts surrounding the
28 halibut fishing by the Japanese; and be it

29 FURTHER RESOLVED that the President is respectfully requested to take

1 decisive and immediate action by directing the Secretary of the Treasury to
2 ban the importation of Japanese halibut until such time as assurances are
3 forthcoming that the International North Pacific Fisheries Convention will be
4 strictly adhered to.

5 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
6 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Fredrick B. Dent,
7 Secretary, Department of Commerce; the Honorable George Shultz, Secretary,
8 Department of the Treasury; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable
9 Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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