

Introduced: 4/8/74
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 61

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to increased protection of
6 wildlife indigenous to Mt. McKinley
7 National Park in areas adjacent to
8 the park's northern boundary.

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

10 WHEREAS the wildlife of Mt. McKinley National Park are among the state's
11 greatest assets, contributing substantially to the enjoyment of its residents
12 and providing a significant attraction to those who visit our state; and

13 WHEREAS it is acknowledged by representatives of both the state and
14 federal governments that wildlife indigenous to the park should receive
15 maximum protection; and

16 WHEREAS biological research on moose, wolf, caribou, and sheep popula-
17 tions within the park has revealed that during certain periods of the year
18 significant numbers of those animals range outside the northern boundary of
19 the national park; and

20 WHEREAS these animals have become increasingly subjected to hunters and
21 trappers who penetrate the region with snow machines, aircraft, and other
22 vehicles; and

23 WHEREAS, within the past few years, a particularly sensitive portion
24 of the northern boundary area has been opened to large-scale recreational
25 cabin development, and new threats exist from a resurgence of mining activity
26 in the area; and

27 WHEREAS at the present time these additional critical land areas adjacent
28 to the northern park boundary are withdrawn for consideration as a national
29 interest study area for possible inclusion in the four national systems;

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
2 respectfully requested to direct the Commissioner of Fish and Game to deter-
3 mine the specific areas adjacent to the northern boundary of Mt. McKinley
4 National Park that wildlife indigenous to the park utilize and to close
5 those areas by emergency order during the periods of their use, pending
6 further action by the Board of Fish and Game; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Fish and Game is respectfully requested
8 to consider those areas determined to be critical to indigenous park wild-
9 life for closed or restricted status until the final determination is made
10 as to whether the area under consideration as a national interest study area
11 is included in one of the four national systems.

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