

Introduced: 2/2/73
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY POLAND AND CROFT

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12 *AM*

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the sale of timber on
6 Afognak Island.

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

8 WHEREAS in the mid 1960's the total timber resource on Afognak Island
9 was leased to certain Japanese interests; and

10 WHEREAS on several occasions the Kodiak Borough has vigorously protested
11 the potentially unlimited cutting of the timber on Afognak Island to no
12 avail; and

13 WHEREAS Koniag, Inc., the local Native corporation, has also voiced its
14 concern as to the possible detrimental effects of the devastation of Afognak
15 Island's timber resource; and

16 WHEREAS Afognak Island's wildlife and fish resources, including espe-
17 cially the vast elk and bear populations, could be endangered to the point
18 of extinction if the proper concern for the overall environment is not main-
19 tained; and

20 WHEREAS in recent days the United States Forest Service and the Japanese
21 concern that presently is the lessee of the Afognak timber have agreed to
22 the cooperative undertaking of a study of the environmental impact of the
23 cutting of Afognak timber on the fish and wildlife resources centered on
24 Afognak Island; and

25 WHEREAS this action is commendable and a step in the right direction,
26 but it is vital that residents of the Kodiak area have the opportunity to
27 offer their input before a final environmental statement is formulated;

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Forest
29 Service is respectfully requested, as part of the impending environmental

1 impact study, to hold public hearings in Kodiak before any impact statement
2 is finally formulated; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Forest Service is urged to
4 completely reevaluate the lease of Afognak Island timber and to take all
5 immediate and necessary steps to preserve Alaska's fish and wildlife resources
6 on that island.

7 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Earl Butz,
8 Secretary, Department of Agriculture; the Honorable John B. McGuire, Chief
9 United States Forest Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
10 Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in
11 Congress.

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