

Introduced: 2/2/73
Referred: Resources

BY POLAND, CROFT,
KERTTULA AND PALMER

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12

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 timber resources on Afognak Island were
9 leased for utilization by certain Japanese interests; and

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

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

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

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

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

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Forest
28 Service is respectfully requested, as part of the impending environmental
29 impact study, to hold public hearings in Kodiak before any impact statement

1 is finally formulated; and be it

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

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

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