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Referred: State Affairs and  
Judiciary

BY GROH, BUTROVICH, HOHMAN,  
KERTTULA, MELAND, RADER,  
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1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 31

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the National Environ-  
6 mental Policy Act.

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

8 WHEREAS the National Environmental Policy Act was enacted by the United  
9 States Congress out of its laudable concern for the future of man's personal  
10 and physical environment; and

11 WHEREAS one of the purposes of the Act was to ensure proper planning  
12 and decision making regarding projects which may have an environmental  
13 impact; and

14 WHEREAS, rather than merely assure the proper development and utiliza-  
15 tion of this nation's resources, in practice this legislation, or at least  
16 portions of it, have been utilized to stifle all development and progress in  
17 Alaska and across the nation; and

18 WHEREAS the National Environmental Policy Act is so broad and general  
19 that the judges in the land are actually legislating in their various  
20 interpretations of the Act; and

21 WHEREAS the delay in construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, a  
22 project of great importance to not only Alaska and Alaskans, but to Americans  
23 throughout the country, is a prime example of how the original purpose of  
24 the National Environmental Policy Act has been subverted; and

25 WHEREAS the pipeline project and other projects across the country stand  
26 to be delayed further without amendment of the Act by the United States  
27 Congress of such provisions, for example, as that one requiring the federal  
28 government to include in an environmental impact statement information on  
29 all alternatives to a proposed action;

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Congress  
2 is urgently requested to immediately reassess, modify and more precisely  
3 define provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act which have proven  
4 to be avenues for disgruntled persons to delay and impede projects of vital  
5 concern to this nation and all of its citizens.

6 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.  
7 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton,  
8 Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Honorable Henry M. Jackson,  
9 Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; the Honorable  
10 James A. Haley, Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs;  
11 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S.  
12 Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.