

Introduced: 2/13/74  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY HENSLEY AND T. MILLER

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the Department of Interior's  
6 impact statements regarding the proposed  
7 withdrawal of national interest lands  
8 under section 17(d)(2) of the Native  
9 Claims Settlement Act.

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

11 WHEREAS, acting under sec. 17(d)(2) of the Native Claims Settlement  
12 Act, the Secretary of the Interior has recommended to Congress that 83.47  
13 million acres of Alaska land be withdrawn from development, either by the  
14 state or by the private sector; and

15 WHEREAS the proposed withdrawals by the Secretary would have an impact  
16 on the social and economic development of Alaska of the greatest magnitude  
17 imaginable for what would most likely be for all future generations; and

18 WHEREAS the Department of the Interior has issued voluminous reams of  
19 documents containing impact statements on the proposed withdrawals; and

20 WHEREAS, even though the Secretary's proposal will affect every man,  
21 woman, and child in Alaska, interested persons and groups are required to re-  
22 spond to the impact statements within only a matter of a few weeks; and

23 WHEREAS the various villages that are affected, the state, the Bureau  
24 of Indian Affairs, the regional corporations and others must respond; and

25 WHEREAS it is absolutely humanly impossible, even exercising all due  
26 diligence for the interested parties and organizations, including the state,  
27 who must respond, to do so within the small amount of time allotted for  
28 review of the impact statements; and

29 WHEREAS it is absolutely vital to the best interests of the state and

1 all of its citizens that sufficient time be permitted for the various groups  
2 and organizations to adequately examine the impact statements;

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it urgently requests  
4 the Department of the Interior to extend the time period for responding to  
5 the impact statements on the land withdrawal proposal and sec. 17.(d)(2) of  
6 the Native Claims Settlement Act.

7 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.  
8 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton,  
9 Secretary, Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and  
10 the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,  
11 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.