

Original sponsor: Beirne, Eliason,
Fink, et al

Offered: 4/3/75
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the state's selection from
6 public land.

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

8 WHEREAS section 6(a) of the Alaska Statehood Act vests the State of
9 Alaska with an absolute right to select, within 25 years of becoming a state,
10 up to 400,000 acres of land within national forests of Alaska; and

11 WHEREAS this land is for the purposes of furthering the development and
12 expansion of communities, and shall be adjacent to established communities or
13 suitable for prospective community centers and recreational areas; and

14 WHEREAS since achieving statehood many Alaskan communities have under-
15 gone vast expansion and many others have an immediate need to expand; and

16 WHEREAS Alaska's population is increasing at an ever higher and higher
17 rate each year and it is essential that Alaskan communities be able to under-
18 take orderly expansion and development; and

19 WHEREAS the United States Forest Service has effectively abrogated the
20 right granted the State of Alaska by section 6(a) of the Statehood Act by its
21 insistence on prior approval of state selections filed under section 6(a); and

22 WHEREAS the state has selected less than 10 per cent of its land
23 entitlement from the national forests; and

24 WHEREAS the Bureau of Land Management has been extremely dilatory in
25 processing these applications, with some of them awaiting transfer of manage-
26 ment authority since 1968;

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor of the
28 State of Alaska is respectfully requested to direct the Department of Natural
29 Resources to proceed with the selection of the remainder of the state entitle-

1 ment under section 6(a) of the Statehood Act and the Department of Law to
2 take necessary action to eliminate the United States Forest Service from the
3 selection process, and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States is respectfully
5 requested to direct the Department of Agriculture to cease review of state
6 selection applications under section 6(a) of the Statehood Act and the Depart-
7 ment of the Interior to act expeditiously on selections currently pending
8 under section 6(a) of the Statehood Act and on all selections filed in the
9 future.

10 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Gerald R. Ford,
11 President of the United States; the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary,
12 Department of the Interior; the Honorable Earl Butz, Secretary, Department of
13 Agriculture; and the Honorable Ted Stevens, and the Honorable Mike Gravel,
14 United States Senators; and the Honorable Don Young, United States Representa-
15 tive, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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