

Introduced: 2/3/75  
Referred: Commerce

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

2 *CS* SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to RCA Alaska Communications,

6 Inc. proposed satellite system.

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

8 WHEREAS, during the course of the past several years, the Alaska Legis-  
9 lature has registered its opinion with the Federal Communications Commission  
10 regarding Alaska's communications requirements and needs; and

11 WHEREAS several firms, aside from RCA, Inc., have indicated their  
12 willingness to supply the State of Alaska the necessary hardware for a viable  
13 communications system at a reasonable cost; and

14 WHEREAS, originally, RCA, Inc. offered no satellite facility and was  
15 persuaded to do so only after a great deal of effort, time, and money; and

16 WHEREAS the citizens of Alaska are now facing a burdensome rate base for  
17 a communications system that will include outmoded terrestrial equipment and  
18 satellite communications; and

19 WHEREAS the citizens of Alaska are vitally concerned about the advisa-  
20 bility of a single company being able to dominate communications in Alaska;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS an application for construction permits by RCA, Inc. from the  
23 Federal Communications Commission is due to be considered by that body in  
24 the near future;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the following require-  
26 ments be met before the Federal Communications Commission approves the  
27 application of RCA Alaska Communications, Inc:

28 (1) that RCA, Inc. agrees to furnish hybrid satellites containing  
29 both low and high power and sufficient gain transponders so as to definitely

1 assure the receipt of high quality television signals at all ground station  
2 locations;

3 (2) that the Federal Communications Commission require full dis-  
4 closure, both financial and the working relationship and shares of invest-  
5 ments in satellites of RCA Alascom, RCA Globcom, and RCA;

6 (3) that written contracts between RCA Alascom and Globcom  
7 guaranteeing that Alaska's communications needs will be met and that adequate  
8 channel capacity will be entered into;

9 (4) that the Federal Communications Commission make clear that  
10 RCA Alascom is not to have exclusive rights and that in the case of future  
11 satellite needs all bids will be on the open market;

12 (5) that no approval be given until public hearings are conducted  
13 throughout Alaska; and

14 (6) that Alascom and Globcom agree to have separate reporting  
15 and financial systems and that they file reports as may be required to the  
16 Alaska Public Utilities Commission and the Governor's Office of Telecommuni-  
17 cations.

18 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Dean Burch,  
19 Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
20 and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,  
21 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.