

Introduced: 6/16/78
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 139

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to state land selections.

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

7 WHEREAS the continued economic viability of the State of Alaska will
8 depend on a continuing and orderly development of its natural resources; and

9 WHEREAS the U. S. Geological Survey estimates that 25 per cent of the
10 nation's onshore oil reserves and 11 per cent of its gas reserves are in
11 Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS the d-2 legislation presently under consideration by Congress
13 would place much of these reserves in land management categories which would
14 preclude development; and

15 WHEREAS a spokesman for the Department of the Interior recently went on
16 record as opposing all oil and gas exploration and development in Alaska; and

17 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has just recently announced its latest pro-
18 posed land selection priorities under the land grant provisions of the
19 Statehood Act; and

20 WHEREAS one proposed selection, based upon its high petroleum potential,
21 is identified as Area No. 70 - the Marsh Creek Area encompassing 261,320 acres
22 of coastal uplands in the Arctic Wildlife Range;

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
24 respectfully requested to direct the commissioner of natural resources to
25 pursue the selection of this land area for the purpose of improving the
26 state's petroleum reserves for future development and production as the need
27 arises; and be it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that upon conveyance of this land to the state the
29 commissioner of natural resources shall classify the land as resource

1 management land and shall delay development and production until it becomes
2 necessary to maintain the economic viability of the state; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED that when the need for the development of these poten-
4 tial reserves arises the area be open to exploration and development by
5 private enterprise under strict environmental controls.

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