

Introduced: 3/2/77  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE  
BY REQUEST

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to Native representation on the  
6 North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

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

8 WHEREAS there is no direct representation of rural Alaska village com-  
9 munities on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and

10 WHEREAS the Native Alaskan village communities have a direct relation-  
11 ship to the Congress of the United States; and

12 WHEREAS the bipartite relationship predates any and all power vested in  
13 the states represented on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and

14 WHEREAS the food energy chain on which these rural village communities  
15 depend is being drastically disrupted by the allocation of these resources to  
16 foreign nations; and

17 WHEREAS certain members of the Council, namely the representatives from  
18 the National Marine Fisheries Service and the State of Alaska, have not  
19 freely communicated information to the rest of the members of the Council  
20 until the closing minutes of the meeting; and

21 WHEREAS the Council through the offices of its chairman, has limited  
22 United States citizen input to ten minutes of testimony while allowing  
23 foreign nationals unlimited testimony time before the Council; and

24 WHEREAS strong evidence is emerging that the Council, without holding  
25 adequate hearings, is rubber stamping policies that have already been set by  
26 Congress; and

27 WHEREAS the sovereignty of the citizens of our country over the resources  
28 within the extended jurisdiction of the United States to the 200 mile limit  
29 is being undermined by the present actions of the Council in its frivolous

1 and hasty allocations of these food energy resources to foreign multi-national  
2 interests; and

3 WHEREAS it has been stated in testimony and not denied by the Council  
4 that these resources can be efficiently harvested and processed by present  
5 domestic industries; and

6 WHEREAS the severe and continuing climatic conditions affecting the  
7 continental United States is seriously curtailing its national food energy  
8 resources, thereby putting more dependence on the food energy resources from  
9 the sea; and

10 WHEREAS our national interest and sovereign dignity is being severely  
11 undermined by the actions of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council;

12 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
13 Congress to take immediate action to hold in abeyance all recommendations by  
14 the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and any policy decisions by the  
15 Secretary of Commerce acting under the provisions of the Fishery Management  
16 and Conservation Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-265) until proper and deliberative  
17 hearings are held; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED that the enforcement of the provisions of P. L. 94-265  
19 be delayed until the Native villages of Alaska have proper representation in  
20 the formulation of the management policies and allocation of resources under  
21 the Act so that the commitment by Congress and the administration's trustee  
22 responsibility to these villages is maintained.

23 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,  
24 President of the United States; the Honorable Juanita Kreps, Secretary of the  
25 Department of Commerce; the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, President of the  
26 Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of Repre-  
27 sentatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel,  
28 U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of  
29 the Alaska delegation in Congress.