

Introduced: 1/21/77
Referred: Resources

BY ZIEGLER, MELAND
AND POLAND

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7 am H

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Opposing H.R. 39, the "Alaska National
6 Interest Lands Conservation Act."

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

8 WHEREAS the development of a wise national interest resource policy re-
9 quires that public land be utilized on an enlightened multiple-use basis,
10 accommodating all reasonable uses for which the land is suited; and

11 WHEREAS H.R. 39, designed to implement sec. 17(d)(2) of the Alaska Native
12 Claims Settlement Act, unreasonably shifts the emphasis from multiple-use
13 management of land in the general interest to exclusive resource management
14 in the interests of a few; and

15 WHEREAS the thrust of H.R. 39 is illustrated by the creation of 56.0
16 million acres of national parks, monuments, and preserves, as well as adding
17 8.1 million acres to those already in existence, thereby precluding the use
18 of that land for mineral development, hunting (except in limited zones yet to
19 be designated), and overall multiple-use management; and

20 WHEREAS the overall designation of portions of the national interest
21 areas in the bill as components of the National Wilderness Preservation Sys-
22 tem creates enclaves of land which will involve serious access problems, be
23 entirely restrictive to any sort of conventional development, and ultimately
24 against the best public interest of most Alaskans; and

25 WHEREAS provisions relating to Native subsistence rights are uncertain
26 and imprecise, leaving most substantive questions to be answered by regula-
27 tions to be adopted in the future; and

28 WHEREAS subject to valid existing rights, all the land designated as
29 national interest land in H.R. 39 is withdrawn from all forms of appropria-

1 tion under the mining laws and from mineral leasing, thereby placing an
2 untenable burden on the entire nation in this time of energy and raw materials
3 shortage; and

4 WHEREAS sec. 704(b) of H.R. 39 arbitrarily revokes land selections by
5 the state in the national interest land areas, granting the state equal acre-
6 age, but relegating it to the undesirable position of choosing lands of un-
7 specified character and quality elsewhere; and

8 WHEREAS only 1.6 million acres are authorized to be designated as
9 National Forest land, the only land category of those to be considered which
10 approaches multiple-use management and considers diverse interests; and

11 WHEREAS Title V of H.R. 39 directs that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife
12 Service exert primary interim management control of National Petroleum Reserve
13 4, representing an inappropriate shift of control considering the resource
14 involved; and

15 WHEREAS a cooperative management program administered by a federal and
16 state appointed commission would create a climate for determining the best
17 use of lands in Alaska; and

18 WHEREAS recognizing that there is a valid national public interest in
19 public land in Alaska, including state land, as well as a valid interest on
20 the part of the people of Alaska in federal land in Alaska, such a coopera-
21 tive management program would allow lands to be jointly administered until
22 such time as its best value can be determined;

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it opposes H. R. 39,
24 the "Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act", as premature and not
25 in the best interest of the citizens of the state and the nation; and be it

26 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports a strong
27 common management program of administering public lands and developing
28 selection policy.

29 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,

1 President of the United States; the Honorable Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary of
2 the Department of the Interior; the Honorable Robert S. Bergland, Secretary
3 of the Department of Agriculture; the Honorable James O. Eastland, President
4 Pro Tempore of the U. S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.,
5 Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted
6 Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable
7 Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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