

Original sponsor: Orsini
by request

Offered: 2/24/77
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the forthcoming action by the
6 U.S. Congress regarding (d)(2) land
7 withdrawals.

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

9 WHEREAS the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, Section
10 17(d)(2), specified that the Secretary of the Interior may withdraw up to 80
11 million acres of Alaska federal land for possible addition to the national
12 park, forest, wildlife refuge, and wild and scenic river systems; and

13 WHEREAS the U.S. Congress is addressing this issue during the current
14 session; and

15 WHEREAS there are unique areas in Alaska that require the preservation
16 of certain scenic or cultural values in national parks and samples of wet land
17 and critical habitat in wildlife refuges; and

18 WHEREAS the United States is increasingly dependent on foreign energy
19 and mineral reserves and Alaska land has the potential for satisfying the
20 United States' need for scarce or shortage materials; and

21 WHEREAS Alaska's land also has major potential for production of agri-
22 cultural and forest products, and abundant natural areas for public recrea-
23 tion; and

24 WHEREAS an inventory of the natural resources available from private,
25 state and federal lands has not been completed in quantitative terms and the
26 role of these lands in Alaska's future cannot be accurately predicted; and

27 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has not completed selection of its land
28 grants authorized by the Alaska Statehood Act as passed by Congress; and

29 WHEREAS additional resource inventories and land use planning by state

1 and federal agencies will be helpful in utilizing the remaining entitlement
2 to make wise selections before the 1984 deadline for statehood selections; and

3 WHEREAS there are existing authorities under which public land can be
4 managed which will provide for inventory of resource values, classification
5 of land for state selection and for consideration of all resource use oppor-
6 tunities under the principles of multiple use and sustained yield; and

7 WHEREAS these processes provide for the protection of unique natural
8 values which do not exist elsewhere on the public land, including the identi-
9 fication of wilderness;

10 BE IT RESOLVED that, with the exception of certain scenic areas and
11 areas of critical importance to the habitat and well-being of Alaska's
12 wildlife, the remainder of the land set aside by Congress under the (d)(2)
13 provision be managed by such agencies as the Forest Service and the Bureau
14 of Land Management which permit a multiple-use approach to the known, and
15 still unknown, natural resources of this vast area; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that all members
17 of the U.S. House and Senate Interior Committees are urged to visit Alaska
18 before determining what disposition should be given to land in our state; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature formally opposes
20 any federal legislation that will designate vast Alaskan acreage in single-
21 purpose use systems and that Congressional withdrawals and designations of
22 management as national forests, wildlife refuges or national parks should not
23 preclude the opportunity to further evaluate these areas to satisfy national
24 needs or the opportunity for state selections; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no additional public land should be included
26 in management systems which preclude consideration of all values; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public land should be inventoried and,
28 through a land use planning process coordinated with the State of Alaska,
29 determinations should be made to satisfy state selection rights in a manner

1 that will provide land which has a high potential for use; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislation should be enacted by the Congress
3 of the United States authorizing administration of the public land in Alaska
4 under the principles expressed in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act
5 of 1976 (P.L. 94-579).

6 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,
7 President of the United States; the Honorable Henry Jackson, Chairman,
8 Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and all members of that
9 committee; Representative Morris Udall, Chairman, House Interior and Insular
10 Affairs Committee, and all members of that committee; and to the Honorable
11 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable
12 Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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