

Introduced: 1/18/78
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY KERTTULA

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 34

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to joint management of the Yukon
6 River chinook salmon species by the United
7 States and Canada.

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

9 WHEREAS the Yukon River is a spawning ground for all species of salmon,
10 with the chinook and chum species being the most abundant; and

11 WHEREAS the chum salmon runs have been large enough to provide an ade-
12 quate escapement for that species while the runs of the Yukon chinook salmon
13 have been steadily declining during recent years; and

14 WHEREAS the major cause for the decline in abundance of the Yukon
15 chinook salmon is believed to have been the interception by foreign, high
16 seas fishing fleets; and

17 WHEREAS, in an attempt to secure adequate spawning escapements, the
18 commercial fisheries in Alaska have had to be severely restricted during the
19 past few seasons; and

20 WHEREAS, due to the vast areas encompassing the length of the Yukon
21 River and the fact that two sovereign nations exercise fishery management
22 jurisdiction over anadromous species, information about the location of
23 spawning grounds, species composition, and relative abundance of spawners is
24 incomplete; and

25 WHEREAS all people living along the Yukon River will be adversely
26 affected by the loss of income and food if the chinook salmon run dwindles to
27 a level of escapement that will not provide a sustained yield for both
28 subsistence and commercial uses;

29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Secretary of State is respectfully advised that

1 it is the sense of the Alaska State Legislature that those runs of Yukon
2 River chinook salmon spawning in Canadian territory be subject to joint
3 fishery management jurisdiction of the United States and Canada.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,
5 President of the United States; the Honorable Cyrus Vance, Secretary of
6 State; the Honorable Juanita Kreps, Secretary of the Department of Commerce;
7 the Honorable Lloyd Cutler, Ambassador to Canada; Donald L. McCurnan, Chief
8 U.S. Negotiator, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and to the
9 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the
10 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in
11 Congress.