

Original sponsors: Orsini, Bradley,  
Huber, et al

Offered: 2/21/78  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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

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

9 WHEREAS the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, Section 17(d)-  
10 (2), specified that the Secretary of the Interior may withdraw up to, but not  
11 to exceed, 80 million acres of unreserved public land in the State of Alaska  
12 for possible addition to the national park, forest, wildlife refuge, and wild  
13 and scenic river systems; and

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

16 WHEREAS a careful inventory of the mineral potential of the land that  
17 may be included in a management category, which would foreclose mineral  
18 exploration and development, should be undertaken and completed before its  
19 designation into a management category; and

20 WHEREAS access for transportation, recreation, and utilities should be  
21 guaranteed in and to all preservation system designations in Alaska; and

22 WHEREAS, before there is a blanket designation of large areas of Alaska  
23 as wilderness, the traditional procedures of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and a  
24 careful environmental and economic impact study should be made on each wil-  
25 derness proposal; and

26 WHEREAS the 22.5 million acres of commercial forest land in the Interior  
27 of Alaska should be considered for designation as national forest, thereby  
28 providing federal multiple-use areas within the four systems in the Interior  
29 of Alaska; and

1       WHEREAS large blocks of land with identifiable agricultural potential  
2 should be included in management systems which would allow for future agri-  
3 cultural development; and

4       WHEREAS any valid selections made by the state or Natives under the  
5 Statehood Act or the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act should be considered  
6 before designation of that area under Section 17(d)(2); and

7       WHEREAS state management of resident game on federally owned land in  
8 Alaska should be guaranteed, as the state is in a better position to manage  
9 this game and such management was provided for under the Statehood Act; and

10       WHEREAS the state should be guaranteed the right to rehabilitate, main-  
11 tain and enhance its fishery resource through fish hatchery and rehabilita-  
12 tion programs on all land and water in the state considered appropriate for  
13 such purposes by the state; and

14       WHEREAS cooperative federal-state procedures or institutions should be  
15 established to make future recommendations or designations on policy, plan-  
16 ning, and management of Alaska's federal and state land; and

17       WHEREAS, while it is recognized that there is an existing need for  
18 certain land in the State of Alaska to be classified in traditional preser-  
19 vation system categories, the areas under consideration are too large; and

20       WHEREAS municipalities in the state support the multiple-use concept,  
21 which provides a professionally thorough and unbiased analysis of land-use  
22 potential and compatibility of uses, giving appropriate weight to economic,  
23 social and environmental factors; and

24       WHEREAS municipalities in the state oppose any legislation that would  
25 create instant land-use classifications severely restricting land and re-  
26 sources without consideration for other land-use potential;

27       BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature formally opposes the  
28 provisions of H.R. 39 as originally submitted, the recommended changes pro-  
29 posed by Secretary Andrus, and the committee substitute proposed by Congress-

1 man Sieberling, which will designate vast Alaska acreage in single-purpose  
2 use systems, precluding the opportunity to further evaluate these areas to  
3 satisfy national needs or the opportunity for state selections; and be it

4       FURTHER RESOLVED that the passage of this bill without (1) a careful  
5 mineral inventory and guaranteed access provisions; (2) traditional environ-  
6 mental and economic impact studies; (3) provisions for future agricultural  
7 development; (4) creation of new national forests in the Interior of Alaska;  
8 (5) completion of the selection process of the state and Natives; (6) state  
9 game management as guaranteed under the Statehood Act; (7) a guarantee of the  
10 state's right to rehabilitate, maintain and enhance its fisheries resource  
11 through fish hatchery and rehabilitation programs on all land and water in  
12 the state considered appropriate for such purposes by the state; and (8)  
13 cooperative federal-state planning and development, would be against the best  
14 interests of the citizens of the state and nation alike; and be it

15       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United  
16 States Congress to adopt a version of the Alaska National Interest Lands Act  
17 which will incorporate the desires and needs of Alaskan citizens, as ex-  
18 pressed in this resolution.

19       COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,  
20 President of the United States; the Honorable Henry M. Jackson, Chairman,  
21 Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and all members of that com-  
22 mittee; Representative Morris K. Udall, Chairman, House Interior and Insular  
23 Affairs Committee, and all members of that committee; and to the Honorable  
24 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable  
25 Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.