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Referred: Resources

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PHILLIPS, RANDOLPH, ROGERS, SCHAEFFER,  
ZHAROFF AND GARDINER.

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 24

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to studies of hydroelectric  
6 potential in rural Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS electric rates in rural areas of Alaska where diesel generation  
9 is required are abnormally high for many reasons, including

10 (1) the high cost of diesel fuel compounded by the very high cost  
11 of delivery to rural locations;

12 (2) costs of installing tankage and inventory of fuel for a full  
13 year which is often required because of transportation difficulties;

14 (3) lower thermal efficiencies of small diesel plants;

15 (4) high costs of repair because of the requirement of air trans-  
16 portation over substantial distances to many locations; and

17 WHEREAS the United States Army Corps of Engineers has funds available  
18 and future funds programmed to perform studies of small hydroelectric pro-  
19 jects in small communities under the federal Small Hydroelectric Plants  
20 program; and

21 WHEREAS utilization of hydroelectric power can largely alleviate the  
22 special conditions existing in rural Alaska leading to abnormally high costs  
23 of electricity; and

24 WHEREAS sites which may be highly feasible for hydroelectric projects  
25 exist in rural Alaska, including the westcentral region, and reconnaissance  
26 studies would allow accurate determination of the hydroelectric potential;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS the reconnaissance studies are necessary in order that hydro-  
29 electric power may be developed to replace or at least supplement the expen-

1 sive and wasteful reliance on diesel power;

2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States  
3 Army Corp of Engineers assign the highest possible priority to use of the  
4 funds available under the Small Hydroelectric Plants program or other funds  
5 which may be available for reconassiance studies in rural Alaska, including  
6 the westcentral region, to define and assess potential hydroelectric sites.

7 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Lt. General John W. Morris,  
8 Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; to Colonel George R.  
9 Robertson, Alaska District, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; and to the  
10 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the  
11 Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation  
12 in Congress.

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