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1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Regarding the Alaska lands legisla-
6 tion pending in Congress.

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

8 WHEREAS the people of Alaska are frustrated and deeply concerned about
9 the continuing succession of federal land withdrawals and proposed with-
10 drawals, and about pending Alaska lands legislation which does not address
11 these concerns; and

12 WHEREAS these concerns are articulated in a resolution of the Alaska
13 Legislature (1979 Legislative Resolve No. 2) which asks from the federal
14 government no more in the way of a reasonable resolution than would the
15 responsible citizens of any state under similar circumstances, namely that
16 any Alaska lands bill which is enacted make adequate provision for

- 17 (1) the conveyance of state and native lands,
18 (2) access across federal lands,
19 (3) continuing state management of fish and resident wildlife,
20 (4) maintenance of the traditional Alaskan lifestyle,
21 (5) the exclusion of high-value mineral and other commodity re-
22 sources from restrictive conservation systems,
23 (6) the revocation of certain existing Federal withdrawals, and
24 (7) administrative forbearance from the creation of new conserva-
25 tion units without Congressional concurrence; and

26 WHEREAS the Udall-Anderson bill and the Tsongas-Roth substitute (which
27 is practically identical to the Udall-Anderson bill in all important re-
28 spects, while sometimes containing cosmetic provisions), do not satisfy the
29 objectives set forth in 1979 Legislative Resolve No. 2, and therefore

1 threaten to abrogate our Statehood Act compact with the federal government;
2 and

3 WHEREAS the Udall-Anderson and Tsongas-Roth bills also fail to make
4 adequate provision for the exploration and development of energy and mineral
5 resources which are of critical importance to a nation too heavily dependent
6 on foreign sources of supply by

7 (1) precluding even the most careful assessment of the Arctic
8 National Wildlife Range and certain other areas having high potential for
9 oil, gas, and coal;

10 (2) making inadequate provision for transportation systems and
11 blocking access points necessary for on and offshore development;

12 (3) proposing a convoluted and unwarranted leasing system; and

13 (4) otherwise creating statutory barriers which would preclude the
14 prudent development and transportation of Alaskan resources to domestic
15 markets; and

16 WHEREAS the Alaska lands bill reported last November by the Senate
17 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is far superior to other pending
18 measures, but also fails to satisfy certain points enumerated in Legislative
19 Resolve No. 2; and

20 WHEREAS the Energy and National Resources Committee bill is therefore
21 only worth considering in relationship to legislative alternatives which are
22 far worse; and

23 WHEREAS the people of Alaska and their elected representatives want to
24 participate constructively in the process of developing a suitable Alaska
25 lands bill, but believe that the interests and concerns articulated in 1979
26 Legislative Resolve No. 2 must be adequately addressed in any legislation
27 which would receive our support;

28 BE IT RESOLVED that if Alaska lands legislation comes to the floor of
29 the U.S. Senate, the Alaska State Legislature urges the Alaska Congressional

1 delegation and the Governor to oppose the passage of the Udall-Anderson bill
2 and the Tsongas-Roth substitute; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Alaska lands legislation comes to the floor
4 of the U.S. Senate, the Alaska Congressional delegation and the Governor are
5 urged to support the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee bill only
6 if language which precludes the establishment of new conservation withdrawals
7 by executive action, further clarifies and insures traditional state manage-
8 ment of fish and resident wildlife, better protects the traditional Alaskan
9 uses, and otherwise improves upon this legislation in terms of the criteria
10 set forth in 1979 Legislative Resolve No. 2 can be assured during the legisla-
11 tive process; if such improvements cannot be effected and maintained, or if
12 other provisions relating to 1979 Legislative Resolve No. 2 would likely be
13 altered significantly, the delegation is urged to utilize any and all parlia-
14 mentary and other tools needed to protect Alaska's interests; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the President and the Secretary of the Interior
16 are urged to refrain from establishing, or attempting to establish, any new
17 national monuments, wildlife refuges, special management areas, or other con-
18 servation units; and be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED that any regulations for the national monuments created
20 by unilateral executive action in December 1978 should clearly satisfy the
21 criteria set forth in 1979 Legislative Resolve No. 2.

22 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,
23 President of the United States; the Honorable Cecil Andrus, Secretary of the
24 Interior; the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, President of the U.S. Senate; the
25 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representa-
26 tives; the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators,
27 and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
28 delegation in Congress; and to the Honorable Jay S. Hammond, Governor of
29 Alaska.