

Introduced: 4/1/80  
Referred: Resources

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
BY REQUEST

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 66

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the navigability of state  
6 rivers.

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

8 WHEREAS the interior river systems of the State of Alaska have his-  
9 torically been vital transportation arteries for industry and trade to the  
10 state; and

11 WHEREAS, due to land classifications, these river systems are now par-  
12 ticularly indispensable as valuable avenues of trade and commerce to the  
13 interior regions of Alaska; and

14 WHEREAS access to several thousand miles of waterways and many villages  
15 on two of these systems are now barred to ocean carriers by persistent sedi-  
16 mentation at their ocean deltas; and

17 WHEREAS under 33 U.S.C.A. sec. 540 et seq. the United States Army Corps  
18 of Engineers is the federal agency charged with maintaining navigable chan-  
19 nels on the inland waterways of the nation; and

20 WHEREAS the Army Corps of Engineers has not to date maintained the ocean  
21 channels on the vital Kuskokwim River and Yukon River deltas;

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States  
23 Army Corps of Engineers is requested to investigate and report the cost of  
24 identifying, dredging, and maintaining an appropriate channel for ocean-going  
25 vessels drawing 35 feet through the delta regions of both the Yukon River and  
26 the Kuskokwim River.

27 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Clifford L.  
28 Alexander, Jr., Secretary of the Army; Lt. General John W. Morris, Chief of  
29 Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and

1 the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
2 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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