

Introduced: 5/26/81
Referred: Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 59

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting the Federal Communications
6 Commission to require that new
7 domestic satellites provide service
8 to Alaska.

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

10 WHEREAS Alaska has a unique climate and topography and a relatively
11 small population spread over a vast land area; and

12 WHEREAS these factors, together with the distance of Alaska from the
13 other states, have resulted in a critical dependence by Alaska on satellite
14 telecommunications; and

15 WHEREAS the Federal Communications Commission has historically required
16 domestic satellites to provide telecommunications service to Alaska as well
17 as to the other states; and

18 WHEREAS recently the Federal Communications Commission has approved the
19 use of domestic satellites that provide service to the contiguous 48 states
20 but do not provide service to Alaska; and

21 WHEREAS this shift in policy has the effect of further isolating the
22 Alaska by making telecommunications to and from the state, whether in the
23 public or private sector, more costly and time-consuming than it already is;
24 and

25 WHEREAS as the enormous quantity of natural resources in Alaska become
26 increasingly important to the country as a whole, the inclusion of Alaska in
27 an integrated national telecommunications policy will come to benefit all
28 the people of this country as well as Alaskans;

29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

1 the Federal Communications Commission to require that all new domestic
2 satellites provide service to Alaska.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Robert E. Lee,
4 Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission; and to the Honorable Ted
5 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable
6 Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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