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Referred: Transportation

BY DUNCAN, ZHAROFF, FREEMAN,
GARDINER, GRUSSENDORF, MALONE,
MILLER, ROGERS, SMITH AND VASKA

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Opposing Coast Guard user fees.

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

7 WHEREAS the United States Coast Guard is considering a proposal to
8 offset its operating costs by imposing user fees on boat owners; and

9 WHEREAS it is inequitable to require boat owners, rather than the general
10 public, to bear the cost of traditional governmental functions, such as
11 search and rescue, aiding navigation, protecting the marine environment, and
12 providing port safety and security; and

13 WHEREAS the proposed user fee rate structure is based on gross weight of
14 a boat and thereby bears an inadequate relation to the earning potential of
15 the boat; and

16 WHEREAS the user fees proposed for the owners of small fishing boats in
17 Alaska would, in many cases, exceed the owners' annual net income and thereby
18 force the owners out of business; and

19 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
20 that the President of the United States direct the Secretary of Transporta-
21 tion to reject the proposed imposition of Coast Guard user fees on boat
22 owners.

23 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan,
24 President of the United States; the Honorable Drew Lewis, Secretary of Trans-
25 portation; Admiral John B. Hayes, Commandant of the Coast Guard; and to the
26 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
27 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delega-
28 tion in Congress.

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