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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to an economic development
6 policy.

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

8 WHEREAS the State of Alaska firmly supports and encourages responsible
9 economic development that will strengthen and diversify its economic base
10 by utilizing its human and natural resources effectively; and

11 WHEREAS an economic development policy that clearly expresses state
12 goals of achieving a sound, healthy, and growing economy for Alaska would
13 communicate to the private sector the basis on which the state encourages
14 responsible investors; and

15 WHEREAS a clearly communicated economic development policy would help
16 establish a sound working relationship with industry and encourage inves-
17 tors to broaden their activities within the state; and

18 WHEREAS the Constitution of the State of Alaska provides that "It is
19 the policy of the state to encourage the settlement of its land and the
20 development of its resources by making them available for maximum use
21 consistent with the public interest" and also provides that "The legisla-
22 ture shall provide for the utilization, development, and conservation of
23 all natural resources belonging to the State, including land and waters,
24 for maximum benefit of its people";

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature encourages invest-
26 ments and developments in Alaska that

27 (1) offer increased employment and long-term benefits to
28 Alaskans by strengthening and diversifying the state's economic base and by
29 encouraging new activities that are economically feasible;

1 (2) are environmentally sound and mitigate adverse impact on the
2 state's wildlife and scenic resources;

3 (3) provide opportunities for increased personal income and
4 reduce living costs by creating activity in economic sectors not presently
5 in existence or fully developed;

6 (4) have a positive effect on the revenue needs and fiscal
7 conditions of the state and local communities and are cost effective; and

8 (5) are undertaken after the full consideration of the views of
9 the citizens most impacted by the development and after close coordination
10 with those citizens; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that in order to take advantage of investment oppor-
12 tunities afforded by Alaska's abundant resources, the state shall

13 (1) assist both present and potential domestic and foreign
14 investors in acquiring and developing the information necessary to evaluate
15 project feasibility;

16 (2) seek to identify, with cooperation from investors, con-
17 straints to economic development imposed by all levels of government and
18 seek to work with government agencies to solve problems created by those
19 constraints;

20 (3) seek to identify, with cooperation from investors, addi-
21 tional constraints to economic development such as the lack of the trans-
22 portation and energy systems necessary to support the extraction, produc-
23 tion, and transportation of resources to markets, and shall seek to implement
24 capital improvement or other programs to resolve these deficiencies when
25 the resolution is in the state's overall best interests;

26 (4) provide a stable tax and regulatory climate that encourages
27 growth and expansion of the state's economic base;

28 (5) encourage "value-added" processing in the state;

29 (6) devise a method and criteria for evaluating the long-term

1 costs and benefits of development projects to the state; and

2 (7) improve the state's competitive position in the world market
3 by offering economic development incentives that encourage business growth
4 but do not discriminate against existing businesses; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to report
6 annually to the legislature, indicating the progress being made in imple-
7 menting these policies and suggesting legislation that might accomplish the
8 goals of this resolution.