

Offered: 4/6/83
Referred: Rules

Original sponsors: Cowdery, Abood,
Barnes, et al

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 Relating to marketing and transporting
6 Alaska's natural gas.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS the largest gas field in the North American continent was
9 discovered 15 years ago at Prudhoe Bay, on Alaska's North Slope; and
10 WHEREAS since that time it has been the policy of Alaska's state
11 government to promote an environmentally sound, privately financed trans-
12 portation system that would allow North Slope natural gas to come to mar-
13 ket, while providing a new source of energy for Alaska's interior and raw
14 material for future industry throughout the state; and
15 WHEREAS the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System selected by
16 President Carter and Congress in 1977 has, since that time, faced continu-
17 ing delays in securing financing and market commitments; and
18 WHEREAS a Trans-Alaska Gas System, if constructed along present cost
19 estimates, stands a strong chance of delivering natural gas to Pacific Rim
20 markets at a competitive cost; and
21 WHEREAS export of Alaska's North Slope energy reserves to significant
22 new markets can result in increased energy exploration and in a better
23 balance of trade with our Pacific trading partners, contributing to both
24 the economic and the energy security of the United States; and
25 WHEREAS an Alaska natural gas transportation system is committed to
26 deliver natural gas to Alaska's interior for energy and raw material for
27 industry in order to support economic diversification; and
28 WHEREAS, if a Trans-Alaska Gas System is to be constructed and North
29 Slope gas is to be sold abroad, potential buyers in Japan, Korea, and other

1 countries need an immediate signal that the system has the full support of
2 both the Alaska and United States governments; and

3 WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the people of Alaska that the
4 state government immediately enter into negotiations for the sale of the
5 state's royalty interest in North Slope natural gas for in-state use as a
6 catalyst for construction of a transportation system for Alaska's natural
7 gas;

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of
9 Alaska fully supports the efforts of all owners of the gas and other
10 parties to secure sales commitments for North Slope gas in any market,
11 including within the state; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that citizens of Japan, Korea, and other trading
13 partners of Alaska, are strongly urged to consider and take advantage of
14 the secure, long-term trading relationship with Alaska and the United
15 States that purchase of Alaska's North Slope gas would offer; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature calls upon the other owners of
17 the gas, Alaska's delegation in Congress, and all other parties with an
18 interest in the gas to explore every means to privately finance and con-
19 struct a transportation system for Alaska's natural gas; and be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska immediately enter into
21 negotiations for the sale of its royalty interest in North Slope gas to
22 in-state users in order that they and the state serve as a catalyst for the
23 construction of a transportation system for Alaska's natural gas; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government is urged to explore the
25 prospect of making development of North Slope gas transportation facilities
26 a National Interest Project of nations on both sides of the Pacific for its
27 long term benefits to this nation and its potential trading partners.

28 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
29 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Schultz,

1 Secretary of State; the Honorable James Watt, Secretary of the Interior;
2 the Honorable Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable
3 George Bush, President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill,
4 Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; 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 Con-
7 gress.