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Referred: Resources

LANS

1 IN THE HOUSE BY TISCHER, BUSSELL, COWDERY,
FRITZ, WARD, BARNES AND SZYMANSKI

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting Congress to decontrol all
6 natural gas.

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

8 WHEREAS natural gas is the only commodity still subject to price
9 regulation in peacetime America; and

10 WHEREAS price controls now cover the wellhead for natural gas; and

11 WHEREAS the present law exempts from control all new gas from deep
12 fields, but controls new shallow gas causing price distortions and discour-
13 aging maximum recovery of natural gas from shallow fields; and

14 WHEREAS at the present time Congress is considering a number of
15 natural gas bills; and

16 WHEREAS any attempt to adjust the National Gas Policy Act without
17 decontrolling all gas will likely fail, leading to a possible gas shortage
18 later this decade; and

19 WHEREAS a phased decontrol of gas would result in a more equitable and
20 efficient pricing system which would benefit gas consumers; and

21 WHEREAS artificially controlling prices rather than allowing the free
22 market system to work results in economic disruptions that often are detri-
23 mental to the consumer;

24 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
25 the United States Congress to enact legislation decontrolling all natural
26 gas.

27 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
28 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush, Presi-
29 dent of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of

- 1 the U.S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
- 2 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
- 3 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.