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Referred: State Affairs

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GRUSSENDORF AND FURNACE

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 60

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Requesting the Secretary of the United  
6 States Department of Transportation to  
7 revise the standard time zones in which  
8 Alaska is located.

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

10 WHEREAS federal law (15 U.S.C. 260-267; 49 U.S.C. 1655(e)(5)) regu-  
11 lates the time on which all federal offices and common carriers engaged in  
12 interstate and foreign commerce operate and grants to the United States  
13 Secretary of Transportation the authority to redefine the boundaries of  
14 time zones that serve the United States; and

15 WHEREAS federal law uses convenience for commerce purposes as the  
16 basic criteria for evaluating the establishment of time zones; and

17 WHEREAS Alaska communities receive almost all commodities and supplies  
18 from the west coast of the continental United States, particularly from the  
19 Puget Sound area; and

20 WHEREAS the major route of air transportation to and from Alaska is  
21 through the Henry M. Jackson Airport in Seattle; and

22 WHEREAS the recent reduction in the time difference between the  
23 northern areas of Alaska and the west coast of the United States has made  
24 it more convenient for commerce; and

25 WHEREAS the elimination of the time difference between the northern  
26 areas of Alaska and the west coast of the United States would make it even  
27 more convenient for commerce; and

28 WHEREAS the reduction in the time difference between Alaska and the  
29 financial centers on the east coast of the United States and the nation's

1 capitol would further enhance communications and commerce; and

2 WHEREAS placing most of the state in a single Alaska time zone has  
3 improved communications between the people of Alaska; and

4 WHEREAS placing all of Alaska in the Pacific Standard Time Zone would  
5 avoid inconvenience to the traveler, the transportation industry, and other  
6 commercial enterprises; and

7 WHEREAS placing all of Alaska in the Pacific Standard Time Zone would  
8 further enhance commerce by providing one additional hour of evening day-  
9 light and also enhance the lifestyle of Alaska citizens;

10 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Secre-  
11 tary of the United States Department of Transportation to redefine the  
12 boundaries of the time zones in which Alaska is located by shifting the  
13 entire state to the Pacific Standard Time Zone.

14 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Elizabeth  
15 Dole, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation; the Honorable  
16 George Bush, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S.  
17 Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of  
18 Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
19 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
20 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.