

Introduced: 1/25/83
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE BY ELIASON, ZIEGLER AND RAY

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting rejection and renegotiation
6 of the proposed United States-Canada
7 salmon interception treaty.

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

9 WHEREAS the commercial salmon industry is an integral and important
10 part of the economy of Alaska; and

11 WHEREAS the proposed treaty between the United States and Canada
12 concerning Pacific salmon calls upon Southeast Alaska's salmon fishermen to
13 take further reductions in harvest, while calling upon Canadian fishermen
14 to take only minimal cutbacks; and

15 WHEREAS the Southeast Alaska trollers have already made considerable
16 unilateral reductions in their harvests of chinook salmon for the sake of
17 conservation, while Canadian fishermen have been allowed unrestricted
18 harvest of the same stocks; and

19 WHEREAS chinook salmon conservation measures proposed in the treaty
20 are based on catch statistics for years in which Canadian catches were at
21 record high levels and their fishery was expanding, while during the same
22 years the Alaskan fishery was already being restricted; and

23 WHEREAS all commercial salmon gear groups have expressed opposition to
24 certain provisions in the proposed treaty; and

25 WHEREAS the proposed treaty does not address the issue of high seas
26 foreign interception of all species of salmon; and

27 WHEREAS the language in the proposed treaty is not sufficiently speci-
28 fic to insure the conservation and rational management sought by the par-
29 ties to the treaty; and

1 WHEREAS implementation of the proposed treaty would have a disastrous
2 economic impact on many Alaskan fishermen; and

3 WHEREAS it is vitally important that a treaty transferring significant
4 management authority from the state to an international commission include
5 clear safeguards to protect Alaska's fisheries; and

6 WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the value of a coast-
7 wide agreement and the need to work towards the development of a fair
8 treaty;

9 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
10 the Governor of the State of Alaska to reject the proposed United States-
11 Canada salmon interception treaty; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Senate delegation in Congress is
13 respectfully requested to use its best efforts to prevent ratification of
14 the United States-Canada salmon interception treaty by the United States
15 Senate; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature respectfully requests the Secre-
17 tary of State to seek reopening of United States-Canada salmon treaty
18 negotiations.

19 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George
20 Shultz, Secretary of State; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Hon-
21 orable Frank Murkowski, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska Senate dele-
22 gation in Congress; and to the Honorable William Sheffield, Governor of the
23 State of Alaska.