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Referred: State Affairs and
Transportation

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STURGULEWSKI AND RODEY

1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Requesting the Secretary of the United

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States Department of Transportation to

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revise the standard time zones in which

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Alaska is located.

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

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WHEREAS Alaska is the only state that spans four time zones; and

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WHEREAS the time differences between the communities in Alaska create

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an artificial barrier that impairs efforts to improve communications among

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the widely scattered population centers of this vast state; and

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WHEREAS the elimination of the time differential between the state

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capital and the other centers of finance, trade, and commerce in Alaska

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would bring state government closer to all the people of the state; and

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WHEREAS the transfer of most of Alaska to the Yukon Standard Time Zone

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would place most Alaskans on an identical time schedule that would avoid

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inconvenience to the traveler, the transportation industry, and other

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commercial enterprises; and

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WHEREAS federal law (15 U.S.C. secs. 260 - 267; 49 U.S.C. sec.

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1655(e)(5)) regulates the time on which all federal offices and common

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carriers engaged in interstate and foreign commerce operate and grants to

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the United States Secretary of Transportation the authority to redefine the

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boundaries of time zones that serve the United States;

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Secre-

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tary of the United States Department of Transportation to redefine the

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boundaries of the time zones in which Alaska is located by shifting those

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portions of the state located in the Pacific Standard Time Zone and the

1 Alaska Standard Time Zone to the Yukon Standard Time Zone and by shifting
2 that portion of the state located in the Bering Standard Time Zone to the
3 Alaska Standard Time Zone.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Andrew L.
5 Lewis, Jr., Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation; and to the
6 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
7 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delega-
8 tion in Congress.