

Offered: 5/5/84
Referred: Judiciary

Original sponsors: V.Fischer, Rodey,
Halford, et al

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 31 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the capture of orcas in
6 Alaska waters.

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

8 WHEREAS the State of Alaska and its people have an abiding interest in
9 the wildlife of the state; and

10 WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service has issued to Sea World,
11 Inc., a permit to capture 100 orcas (killer whales) in Alaska waters and to
12 retain 10 of the orcas for breeding and public display; and

13 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has been engaged in discussions with Sea
14 World, Inc., concerning the issuance of a state permit that would condition
15 the capture of orcas on (1) performance of certain investigations prior to
16 capture, (2) compliance with conditions regulating the locations, methods,
17 times and other aspects of capture, (3) providing for observers to be
18 stationed aboard vessels used for captures, and (4) providing for the
19 reimbursement of certain costs that may be incurred by the state as a
20 result of capture activities;

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State legislature that the Congress of
22 the United States is requested to (1) prohibit the taking of orcas in
23 Alaska waters; or (2) require that the capture of orcas in Alaska waters be
24 carried out only after public hearings are conducted in Alaska by the
25 National Marine Fisheries Service and only after obtaining a permit from
26 the State of Alaska that stipulates conditions for conducting research and
27 capture activities; and be it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Marine Fisheries Service is re-
29 quested to (1) revoke the permit issued to Sea World, Inc., for the capture

1 of orcas in Alaska waters; or (2) require that Sea World, Inc., obtain a
2 permit from the State of Alaska and to abide by all conditions of the
3 Alaska permit before proceeding with any orca capture or research activi-
4 ties in Alaska waters; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor of Alaska is respectfully requested
6 to (1) vigorously pursue implementation of this resolution; and (2) act
7 firmly to prevent illegal or unauthorized interference with or harassment
8 of orcas in Alaska waters.

9 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
10 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the
11 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives;
12 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
13 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the
14 Alaska delegation in Congress; William G. Gordon, assistant administrator
15 for fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service; and the Honorable Bill
16 Sheffield, Governor of Alaska.