

Introduced: 2/29/84
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Requesting the establishment of an
6 Alaska National Interest Lands Act
7 information and education center in
8 Ketchikan.

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

10 WHEREAS the United States Forest Service and other state and federal
11 agencies are required by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation
12 Act (ANILCA) to evaluate the feasibility of establishing four regional
13 visitor information and education centers in Alaska; and

14 WHEREAS ANILCA centers have been established in Tok, Anchorage, and
15 Fairbanks; and

16 WHEREAS the cities of Ketchikan, Sitka, and Juneau are being evaluated
17 for the fourth regional center site; and

18 WHEREAS the City of Ketchikan is the gateway to Southeast Alaska and
19 is usually the first port of call for most visitors traveling in the south-
20 eastern region; and

21 WHEREAS the City of Ketchikan has actively supported tourism through
22 the development or shared development and operation of such facilities as:

23 1. the Totem Heritage Center, that houses a major sites col-
24 lection of Southeast Alaska totems and Native art and artifacts;

25 2. the port of Ketchikan, the point of arrival for 155 cruise
26 ships and nearly 100,000 visitors in 1983;

27 3. a convention and hotel site near Ketchikan's downtown; and

28 4. the City of Ketchikan Museum; and

29 WHEREAS the City of Ketchikan further supports tourism through a

1 transient room tax, the proceeds of which are used to underwrite the op-
2 erations of the Ketchikan Visitors Bureau, with a total city contribution
3 of \$97,000 in 1983; and

4 WHEREAS an ANILCA center located in Ketchikan would provide the
5 earliest possible opportunity for visitors to obtain information and
6 assistance on the features and opportunities in Southeast Alaska; and

7 WHEREAS an ANILCA center would further compliment efforts of the City
8 of Ketchikan, Ketchikan Visitors Bureau, and other local private and public
9 agencies to promote and improve travel and visitor opportunities in South-
10 east Alaska;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
12 the United States Congress to establish and fund the fourth regional Alaska
13 National Interest Lands Conservation Act information and education center
14 in the City of Ketchikan.

15 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable John Block,
16 Secretary of Agriculture; the Honorable William Clark, Secretary of the
17 Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
18 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
19 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.