

Offered: 4/25/84
Referred: Finance

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44 (Resources)

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 Conserva-
7 tion Act information and education
8 center in Ketchikan.

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

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

14 WHEREAS an ANILCA center has been established in Tok, and Anchorage
15 and Fairbanks are designated in 16 U.S.C. 3195 (Alaska National Interest
16 Lands Conservation Act) as additional sites for ANILCA centers; and

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

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

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

- 24 1. the Totem Heritage Center, which houses a major sites col-
25 lection of Southeast Alaska totems and Native art and artifacts;
- 26 2. the port of Ketchikan, the point of arrival for 155 cruise
27 ships and nearly 100,000 visitors in 1983;
- 28 3. a convention and hotel site near Ketchikan's downtown; and
- 29 4. the City of Ketchikan Museum; and

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

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

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

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

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable John Block,
17 Secretary of Agriculture; the Honorable William Clark, Secretary of the
18 Interior; 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.