

Introduced: 2/17/86
Referred: Labor & Commerce
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY WALLIS

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 53

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to the economy of rural commu-

6

nities of the Interior and Lower Yukon

7

areas.

8

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

9

WHEREAS rural communities throughout the Interior and Lower Yukon areas are having severe economic problems; and

11

WHEREAS the potential for resource, industrial, agricultural, and employment development in these areas has not been determined; and

13

WHEREAS communities in these areas lack the infrastructure and financial resources vital to a healthy economy; and

15

WHEREAS the unemployment rate in these areas is greater than 90 per cent for most of the year; and

17

WHEREAS declining state revenue and fewer capital projects aggravate the unemployment problem by reducing the number of available jobs; and

19

WHEREAS the Board of Fisheries has effectively closed the 1986 Yukon River fall chum commercial fishery and seriously threatened the subsistence fishery; and

22

WHEREAS the decision of the Board of Fisheries will have a negative impact on the people of the Yukon River who rely on commercial and subsistence fishing and prefer to be self-sufficient; and

25

WHEREAS the decision of the Board of Fisheries would force the people of the Yukon River to rely on state assistance when they prefer employment; and

28

WHEREAS this decision will increase an already inflated and high rate of unemployment; and

1 WHEREAS these areas contain a skilled and willing work force; and
2 WHEREAS the people most affected by this poor economic climate are
3 rural Alaskans; and
4 WHEREAS these people are suffering hardship due to a lack of income
5 and employment opportunities; and
6 WHEREAS a healthier economic climate in these areas would make these
7 rural Alaskans more self-sufficient and would benefit all Alaskans;
8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
9 urgently requested to undertake a complete analysis of this economic
10 downturn and the avenues available to the state to improve the economy of
11 rural communities in the Interior and Lower Yukon areas; and be it
12 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to uti-
13 lize whatever means or resources are identified in the analysis to
14 immediately counter the economic disaster in the rural communities of the
15 Interior and Lower Yukon areas in order to ensure the long-term viability
16 of the economy of the state.