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Referred: Resources

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HERRMANN

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Urging the United States Fish and Wild-

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life Service to postpone the proposed

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cattle slaughter on Simeonof Island.

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

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WHEREAS cattle have been on Simeonof Island since 1894; and

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WHEREAS the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has indicated that

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it plans to kill the cattle on this island during the week of March 4,

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1985; and

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WHEREAS the people in the communities near Simeonof Island are suffer-

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ing difficult economic times due to the decline of the fishery stocks; and

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WHEREAS the people in the communities near Simeonof Island have used

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the cattle on Simeonof Island as a supplemental food source in the past,

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and would like to continue to do so in the future; and

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WHEREAS there are cattle holding pens and loading chutes on Simeonof

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Island to facilitate removal of the cattle; and

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WHEREAS the Shumagin Village Corporation has presented the United

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States Fish and Wildlife Service with a proposal to transplant the cattle

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from Simeonof Island to Unga Island; and

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WHEREAS the Shumagin Village Corporation proposal is a responsible,

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locally generated plan based on the experience and expertise of the area

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residents; and

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WHEREAS the Shumagin Village Corporation is pursuing this relocation

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plan with diligence but needs until October 1985 to establish the necessary

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transportation arrangements and to secure agreements with the 13 regional

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nonprofit corporations that own Unga Island; and

1       WHEREAS the slaughter of the cattle would constitute a waste of thou-  
2 sands of pounds of beef that could be used by needy Alaskans in the immedi-  
3 ate area;

4       BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it respectfully  
5 urges the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to postpone its termina-  
6 tion action related to the cattle until at least October 1985; and be it

7       FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature respectfully urges the United  
8 States Fish and Wildlife Service to assist the Shumagin Village Corporation  
9 with its effort to transplant the Simeonof Island cattle to Unga Island;  
10 and be it

11       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Alaska  
12 delegation in Congress to do whatever is in its power to persuade the  
13 United States Fish and Wildlife Service to postpone the cattle slaughter on  
14 Simeonof Island until at least October 1985.

15       COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald  
16 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable Donald Hodel,  
17 Secretary of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the  
18 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
19 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.