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Referred: House Special Committee
on Fisheries and Resources

BY GOLL, JENKINS, BINKLEY
AND THOMPSON

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 43 am

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the interception of Alaska

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salmon on the high seas.

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

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WHEREAS Alaska's salmon represents one of the state's most important

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renewable resources; and

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WHEREAS more than 40,000 people are employed in commercial fish pro-

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cessing and harvesting jobs in the state during the salmon season, and

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thousands of other people in the transportation and service industries in

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the state benefit from this economic activity; and

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WHEREAS the Alaska commercial salmon industry contributes millions of

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dollars annually to state and local government treasuries through taxes,

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assessments and fees, and salmon fishing and processing represent the

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economic backbone of many coastal communities in the state; and

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WHEREAS salmon is a mainstay in the diets of state residents who

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harvest the great fish by rod and reel, net, and fishwheel for personal and

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family consumption; and

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WHEREAS recreational fishing for salmon is an experience enjoyed by

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most state residents each year; and

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WHEREAS more than 1,000,000 salmon originating in the state are

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estimated to have been harvested on the high seas by Japanese fishing

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fleets during 1983; and

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WHEREAS high seas interceptions deprived Alaska of commercial fishing

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opportunities valued at more than \$19,000,000 to fishermen, and more than

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\$36,000,000 to seafood processors; and

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WHEREAS this lost opportunity cost the state treasury roughly \$500,000

1 to \$800,000 in lost fisheries business tax revenue alone; and

2 WHEREAS the interception figures include 106,000 chinook salmon from
3 South Central Alaska stocks, more than the combined catches of recreation-
4 al, commercial and subsistence fishermen in Cook Inlet in 1983; and

5 WHEREAS foreign fishing fleets catch billions of pounds of fish and
6 shellfish in the state's 200-mile fishery conservation zone each year;

7 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
8 the U.S. Department of State to vigorously pursue negotiations that will
9 lead to complete elimination of high seas interceptions of salmon of Alaska
10 origin; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
12 quests U.S. Congress to adopt amendments to the Magnuson Fishery Conser-
13 vation and Management Act preventing nations that intercept Alaska-bound
14 salmon on the high seas from receiving allocations to harvest groundfish in
15 the United States' 200-mile fishery conservation zone.

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
17 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Schultz,
18 Secretary of State; the Honorable Robert Dole, U.S. Senate Majority Leader;
19 the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Repre-
20 sentatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
21 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
22 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; to Mr. William Gordon, assis-
23 tant administrator for fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service; and to
24 Mr. James Campbell, chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council.