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Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY ZHAROFF

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Urging the United States Fish and Wild-
6 life Service to postpone the proposed
7 cattle slaughter on Simeonof Island.

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

9 WHEREAS cattle have been on Simeonof Island since 1894; and
10 WHEREAS the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has indicated that
11 it plans to kill the cattle on this island during the week of March 4,
12 1985; and

13 WHEREAS the people in the communities near Simeonof Island are suffer-
14 ing difficult economic times due to the decline of the fishery stocks; and

15 WHEREAS the people in the communities near Simeonof Island have
16 used the cattle on Simeonof Island as a supplemental food source in the
17 past, and would like to continue to do so in the future; and

18 WHEREAS there are cattle holding pens and loading chutes on Simeonof
19 Island to facilitate removal of the cattle; and

20 WHEREAS the Shumagin Village Corporation wants to transplant the
21 cattle from Simeonof Island to Unga Island, but the Shumagin Village Corpo-
22 ration needs until September 1985 to establish agreements to do so with the
23 13 regional nonprofit corporations that own Unga Island; and

24 WHEREAS the slaughter of the cattle would constitute a waste of thou-
25 sands of pounds of beef that could be used by needy Alaskans in the immedi-
26 ate area; and

27 WHEREAS the elimination of the cattle will be very expensive; and

28 WHEREAS the cost of the destruction of the cattle could be used to
29 better advantage to help the Shumagin Village Corporation transplant the

1 cattle to Unga Island;

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

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature respectfully urges the United
6 States Fish and Wildlife Service to divert the costs of shooting the cattle
7 on Simeonof Island to helping the Shumagin Village Corporation transplant
8 the Simeonof Island cattle to Unga Island; and be it

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

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