

Introduced: 4/23/85  
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 24

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the Americanization of the

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fishery off the coast of Alaska.

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

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WHEREAS the fishery off Alaska's coast is greater than that of the

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rest of the United States combined, and this resource is tremendously

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important to the long range future of Alaska; and

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WHEREAS there exists an excellent opportunity for American harvesters

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and processors to take advantage of the more than 4,000,000,000 pounds of

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fish currently being taken by foreign fishing interests within America's

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200-mile zone; and

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WHEREAS Americanization of the fishery will benefit Alaskan coastal

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communities by providing jobs for harvesters, processing workers, and

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transporters on a continuing basis; and

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WHEREAS Americanization of the fishery will increase American

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participation in the fishing and processing industries, provide employment

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opportunities for Americans, stimulate economic growth and foster economic

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stability in Alaska's coastal communities, and generate tax revenue for

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Alaska's municipalities, the State of Alaska, other coastal states, and the

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United States Government; and

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WHEREAS over 99.5 percent of Alaska's harvesters currently have no

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involvement in the catching and processing of fishery resources by foreign

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fishing interests; and

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WHEREAS joint ventures were originally intended as an interim step in

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the Americanization of the fishery, to be phased-out as quickly as

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possible; and

1       WHEREAS a planned phase-out is crucial to enable the American fishing  
2 and processing industry to provide for an orderly transfer of the fishery  
3 to domestic interests; and

4       WHEREAS establishing a time certain for the phasing-out of foreign  
5 fishing interests will encourage the financial community to support  
6 capitalization of American harvesters and processors; and

7       WHEREAS the Governor's authority to permit joint ventures in Alaska's  
8 internal waters, to provide additional processing capacity according to  
9 provisions of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, is in  
10 no way affected by this resolution;

11       BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
12 the United States Congress to phase out all foreign fishing in American  
13 waters by 1988; and be it

14       FURTHER RESOLVED that sales of American-harvested fish to foreign  
15 floating processors be limited to current levels until foreign processors  
16 are replaced by American processors in 1990.

17       COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald  
18 Reagan, President of the United States, to the Honorable George P. Shultz,  
19 Secretary of State, to the Honorable Malcolm Baldrige, Secretary of  
20 Commerce, 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.