

Offered: 5/1/86
Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: Resources Committee

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to the Alaska National Interest
6 Lands Conservation Act Sections 705 and
7 706.
8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
9 WHEREAS the timber industry is an important industry and a major
10 contributor to the economy of the state; and
11 WHEREAS tourism, commercial fishing, and recreation industries are
12 also vital to Southeast Alaska and are major contributors to the state's
13 and region's economy; and
14 WHEREAS the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation
15 Act (ANILCA) recognized the importance of these industries to the state;
16 and
17 WHEREAS Section 705 of ANILCA was a compromise between those advocat-
18 ing wilderness additions, those supporting a viable timber industry, and
19 those concerned about other values within the Tongass National Forest; and
20 WHEREAS Section 705 provided for a timber supply fund to make timber
21 harvest in marginally economic stands economically feasible; and
22 WHEREAS Section 705 authorized a timber supply harvest goal of 4.5
23 billion board feet per decade; and
24 WHEREAS Congress's objective in Section 705 was to maintain employment
25 in the dependent timber industry of Southeast Alaska at pre-ANILCA levels,
26 while ensuring that other resource values and public uses would be pro-
27 tected on nonwilderness land in accordance with Federal law and the Tongass
28 Land Management Plan; and
29 WHEREAS Section 705 has not been properly implemented, particularly as

1 a result of the forest service's failure to allocate Section 705 funds in
2 accordance with representations it made to Congress at the time of ANILCA's
3 passage; and

4 WHEREAS Congress is about to begin oversight hearings to consider
5 Section 705 of ANILCA;

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Section 705 of
7 ANILCA not be amended so that the delicate compromise crafted by Congress
8 balancing values within the Tongass National Forest be maintained; and be
9 it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the forest service continue to manage the
11 Tongass National Forest in a manner that will maintain the balance between
12 jobs and development, and fish, wildlife, recreation, and wilderness in
13 Southeast Alaska, and that the timber harvest level of 4.5 billion board
14 feet per decade be maintained; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tongass Timber Supply Fund be adequately
16 funded and spent in accordance with the manner and for the items that the
17 forest service advised Congress it would spend the funds; and be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED that before Congress begins any further consideration
19 of ANILCA that hearings be held within the State of Alaska.

20 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
21 Reagan, President of the United States; to the Honorable George Bush,
22 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; to
23 the Honorable Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of
24 Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
25 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
26 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.