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Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8 am

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the use of Alaska wood.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

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WHEREAS the state has been importing annually the equivalent of at least 100,000,000 board feet of dimension lumber; and

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WHEREAS Alaska's forests could provide much of the state's domestic needs for wood products; and

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WHEREAS 8 to 10 jobs would be generated directly and indirectly for each 1,000,000 board feet of timber harvested and processed into lumber locally; and

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WHEREAS the utilization of local wood for domestic purposes would stimulate the state's forest products industry and help to diversify the economy of the state; and

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WHEREAS, in recognition of the benefits derived from the uses of locally grown timber, previous legislatures have passed a Forest Products Preference Act, which provides in part:

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Sec. 36.15.010. USE OF LOCAL FOREST PRODUCTS REQUIRED IN PROJECTS FINANCED BY PUBLIC MONEY. In a project financed by state money in which the use of timber, lumber, and manufactured lumber products is required, only timber, lumber, and manufactured lumber products originating in this state from local forests shall be used wherever practicable.

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Sec. 36.15.020. INSERTION OF CLAUSE IN CALLS FOR BIDS AND IN CONTRACTS. A clause containing the substance of AS 36.15.010 shall be inserted in all calls for bids and in all contracts awarded.

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate that local and state governmental

1 agencies that routinely purchase wood or initiate the purchase of wood for  
2 domestic use should follow the existing provisions of law; and be it

3       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic  
4 Development is encouraged to undertake an educational program to make the  
5 public aware of the overall advantages of using Alaska wood wherever  
6 practicable in Alaska construction; and be it

7       FURTHER RESOLVED that the owners of forest lands both public and  
8 private are encouraged to meet the domestic demand for forest products by  
9 supplying an adequate amount of timber for local processors and local  
10 manufacturers.