

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY ZAWACKI

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to petroleum research and
6 development in the state.

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

8 WHEREAS petroleum production in the state provides nearly 85 percent
9 of the revenue for the state and will continue to be the major economic
10 force in the state for coming decades; and

11 WHEREAS the petroleum resources in the state's arctic, subarctic, and
12 offshore regions are expected to constitute nearly 40 percent of all of the
13 future petroleum resources found within the United States in the near
14 future; and

15 WHEREAS potential incremental oil production through enhanced oil
16 recovery could amount to 10,000,000,000 barrels from known Alaska reserves;
17 and

18 WHEREAS enhanced oil recovery from current and future oil fields in
19 the state will require continuing basic laboratory research and modeling;
20 and

21 WHEREAS the United States Department of Energy has been advised by the
22 United States Energy Research Advisory Board to establish a center of
23 excellence for major petroleum recovery research in each of six major
24 United States petroleum provinces; and

25 WHEREAS the arctic North Slope represents a unique and major petroleum
26 province that has special research needs and requires special technology;
27 and

28 WHEREAS the state is well suited geographically to be the site for a
29 research center for the petroleum development needs of the arctic North

1 Slope; and

2 WHEREAS the Petroleum Development Laboratory of the University of
3 Alaska Fairbanks is a nationally recognized and well-equipped petroleum
4 research center that places special emphasis on the unique problems associ-
5 ated with development of the petroleum resources of the state;

6 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Governor
7 and the Alaska congressional delegation to continue to encourage petroleum
8 research and development in the state by supporting the Petroleum Develop-
9 ment Laboratory of the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the
11 Alaska congressional delegation to persuade the United States Department of
12 Energy to designate the state a major United States petroleum province and
13 to designate the Petroleum Development Laboratory of the University of
14 Alaska Fairbanks as a center of excellence to conduct petroleum research.

15 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable John S.
16 Herrington, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy; and to the
17 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
18 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska dele-
19 gation in Congress.