

Offered: 2/10/88
Referred: Rules

5-1726B

Original sponsor: Senate Special Committee on
Natural Resource Development

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to the further development of
6 Alaskan coal.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS advances in modern mining technology, equipment, and services
9 have greatly enhanced coal mining extraction and reclamation capabilities;
10 and
11 WHEREAS Art. VIII of the Constitution of the State of Alaska states
12 that the natural resources of the state should be developed and managed as
13 a public trust; and
14 WHEREAS the state contains more than 40 percent of the entire known
15 coal reserves in the United States; and
16 WHEREAS currently the state's annual coal production of 1,600,000 tons
17 comprises less than 0.2 percent of the total annual United States produc-
18 tion; and
19 WHEREAS there is only one active coal mine in the entire state; and
20 WHEREAS between 1972 and 1987 Australian steam coal production has
21 grown from 250,000 tons a year to more than 46,000,000 tons a year, with a
22 value of nearly \$3.4 billion; and
23 WHEREAS there is great potential for expanding both instate utiliza-
24 tion and Pacific Rim export markets for Alaskan coal;
25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
26 the Governor to encourage the commissioner of natural resources, the com-
27 missioner of commerce and economic development, the commissioner of en-
28 vironmental conservation, the commissioner of fish and game, and the
29 director of the office of international trade to pursue policies that will

1 lead to the removal of regulatory impediments to, and further promote the
2 development of, the crucial coal mining industry within the state.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Judith Brady,
4 commissioner of natural resources; the Honorable Dennis Kelso, commissioner
5 of environmental conservation; the Honorable Don Collinsworth, commissioner
6 of fish and game; the Honorable J. Anthony Smith, commissioner of commerce
7 and economic development; the Honorable Mark Hickey, commissioner of trans-
8 portation and public facilities; and to Ben Harding, director of the office
9 of international trade.