

Offered: 4/8/88
Referred: Rules

5-1726L

Original sponsor: Senate Special Committee on
Natural Resource Development

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR 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, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, pro-
12 vides that "It is the policy of the state to encourage the settlement of
13 its land and the development of its resources by making them available for
14 maximum use consistent with the public interest"; and
15 WHEREAS the state contains more than 40 percent of the entire known
16 coal reserves in the United States; and
17 WHEREAS currently the state's annual coal production of 1,600,000 tons
18 comprises less than 0.2 percent of the total annual United States produc-
19 tion; and
20 WHEREAS there is only one active coal mine in the entire state; and
21 WHEREAS between 1972 and 1987 Australian steam coal production has
22 grown from 250,000 tons a year to more than 46,000,000 tons a year, with a
23 value of nearly \$3.4 billion; and
24 WHEREAS there is great potential for expanding both instate utiliza-
25 tion and Pacific Rim export markets for Alaskan coal;
26 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
27 the Governor to encourage the commissioner of natural resources, the com-
28 missioner of commerce and economic development, the commissioner of en-
29 vironmental conservation, the commissioner of fish and game, and the

1 director of the office of international trade to pursue policies that will
2 lead to the removal of regulatory impediments to, and further promote the
3 development of, the crucial coal mining industry within the state.

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