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1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL, FAIKS, FANNING,
FAHRENKAMP AND JONES

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Encouraging the state to join the Clean

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Coal Technology Coalition and assist

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acceptance of state projects in the

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clean coal technology program.

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

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WHEREAS coal is a major source of energy worldwide; and

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WHEREAS Alaska contains more than 40 percent of the total known coal

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reserves of the United States; and

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WHEREAS the coal mining industry is an important sector of Alaska's

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economy with immense potential for growth and further development; and

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WHEREAS it is crucial that emissions from power generation be managed

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in a manner that minimizes the pollution of our air and water; and

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WHEREAS Alaska's vast coal resources contain only a fraction of the

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sulfur contained in most other sources of coal worldwide; and

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WHEREAS the combustion of coal that contains high levels of sulfur in

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the generation of electrical power contributes to the production of sul-

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furic acid in the atmosphere; and

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WHEREAS this atmospheric phenomenon is known as "acid rain"; and

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WHEREAS the Congress of the United States created the Clean Coal

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Technology Reserve Fund to support the development of clean coal tech-

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nologies; and

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WHEREAS the Congress has appropriated nearly \$400,000,000 from the

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fund to the Department of Energy for award to several demonstration proj-

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ects proposing new clean coal technologies; and

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WHEREAS legislation has been introduced in the Congress to provide

1 \$3.5 billion over the next 10 years to the fund; and

2 WHEREAS in 1987, the President requested Congress to appropriate \$2.5
3 billion to the clean coal program to honor a commitment made by this
4 country to Canada to implement recommendations of the two countries regard-
5 ing acid rain; and

6 WHEREAS the Clean Coal Technology Coalition is an organization com-
7 posed of utilities, coal producers, manufacturers, industrials, state
8 governments, universities, and others interested in advancing the use of
9 clean coal technologies; and

10 WHEREAS clean coal technology involves a wide range of research and
11 development advances that may lead to burning coal more efficiently and
12 with greatly reduced emission levels; and

13 WHEREAS the state is proximately located to Pacific Rim countries,
14 possesses low sulfur coal reserves, and is dedicated to expanding knowledge
15 of the Arctic and resource-use technologies through the University of
16 Alaska; and

17 WHEREAS the development of technologies that can use Alaskan coal
18 provides an unparalleled opportunity to expand export markets for state
19 coal;

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the governor is
21 respectfully requested to seek state membership in the Clean Coal Tech-
22 nology Coalition; and be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to direct
24 the commissioner of natural resources to assist projects in the state that
25 seek qualification in the Clean Coal Technology Reserve Fund program admin-
26 istered by the United States Department of Energy.

27 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Judith M.
28 Brady, commissioner of natural resources; the Honorable John S. Harrington,
29 Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy; and to the Honorable Ted

- 1 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable
2 Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Con-
3 gress.