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1 IN THE SENATE

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2

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to federally managed conserva-

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tion units in the state.

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

8 WHEREAS records indicate that 89 percent of the land managed by the
9 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 72 percent of the land managed by the
10 National Park Service, 17 percent of the land managed by the Bureau of Land
11 Management, and 12 percent of the land managed by the U.S. Forest Service
12 is located within the State of Alaska; and

13 WHEREAS 15 percent of the land in the State of Alaska managed by these
14 agencies has been given wilderness designation, withdrawing 56,400,000
15 acres from development of the nation's resources; and

16 WHEREAS, of the land designated as wilderness in the United States, 71
17 percent of the land lies within the State of Alaska; and

18 WHEREAS conservation units within the state, including those designat-
19 ed as such by the State of Alaska, now total over 150,000,000 acres, an
20 area equal to 41 percent of the land area of the State of Alaska and also
21 equal to the entire State of California; and

22 WHEREAS the economic and social fabric of the state is intertwined
23 with a heritage of the land and its resources; and

24 WHEREAS the nation was founded on principles that encouraged an indi-
25 vidual to go forth and live, work, and play on the land; and

26 WHEREAS the people of the State of Alaska are experiencing increasing
27 restrictions on the use and benefit of the state's natural resources;

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress and
29 the President not designate further acreage in the State of Alaska with

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1 wilderness status and not add further acreage to the conservation system in
2 the State of Alaska until extensive mineral, forest, and wildlife resource
3 assessments have been conducted with full public participation for the good
4 of the nation and the people of Alaska for generations to come.

5 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
6 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush, Vice-
7 President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honor-
8 able Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honor-
9 able Donald P. Hodel, Secretary of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted
10 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable
11 Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Con-
12 gress.