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Referred: State Affairs and
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5-0924A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY KERTTULA

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 33

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to irradiated food.

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

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WHEREAS research on the consumption of irradiated food and food compo-

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nents contains examples of serious and adverse effects on health; and

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WHEREAS the results of the research on the health effects of the

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consumption of irradiated food and food components are inconsistent, ambig-

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uous, and therefore unreliable; and

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WHEREAS irradiation of food can affect vitamin content and nutrient

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profile and can create potentially harmful chemical compounds not found

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originally in the nonirradiated food; and

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WHEREAS the federal government has issued regulations that permit the

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irradiation of pork and certain other food; and

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WHEREAS there is no federal requirement that irradiated food be la-

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beled as irradiated; and

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WHEREAS consumers presently have no dependable way of knowing when a

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food product or its ingredients have been irradiated; and

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WHEREAS consumers want to know if food has been irradiated so they can

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choose whether or not to buy or consume irradiated foods at grocery stores

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and other food facilities; and

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WHEREAS the people of the state deserve an exhaustive study of the

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potential health dangers of irradiated food before the federal government

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permits the further sale of irradiated food;

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

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the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to ar-

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range for an extensive study of the risk to human health posed by the

1 irradiation of food; and be it

2 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
3 quests the U.S. Congress, until the Congress and the citizens of the United
4 States have had an opportunity to review the requested study, to place a
5 moratorium on the

6 (1) implementation of the present federal regulations relating
7 to the irradiation of pork and other food; and

8 (2) adoption of additional federal regulations allowing the
9 irradiation of food; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
11 quests the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, if the requested moratorium
12 is lifted or not enacted, to adopt regulations requiring food that has been
13 irradiated or whose components have been irradiated to be labeled as "irra-
14 diated"; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
16 quests the U.S. Congress to impose a moratorium on the export of irradiated
17 food that may not be sold legally in the United States.

18 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
19 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush, Vice-
20 President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honor-
21 able Otis R. Bowen, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human
22 Services; the Honorable Frank E. Young, Commissioner of the U.S. Food and
23 Drug Administration; the Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of
24 Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
25 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
26 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.