

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 71 am H
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to British fur labeling.
6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
7 WHEREAS trapping is vital to thousands of people throughout Alaska,
8 Canada, and Greenland; and
9 WHEREAS trapping provides much needed supplemental income to support
10 the traditional subsistence lifestyle; and
11 WHEREAS the sale of fur brings up to \$10,000,000 of income a year to
12 Alaskan trappers; and
13 WHEREAS a current proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Indus-
14 try would require that fur products imported into Great Britain for resale
15 be labeled as follows: "May have been taken with the steel-jaw leg-hold
16 trap"; and
17 WHEREAS this label would discourage consumer purchases and diminish
18 the market for fur products in Great Britain; and
19 WHEREAS Alaskans who harvest fur products that enter the United King-
20 dom would be adversely affected; and
21 WHEREAS the proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Industry
22 fails to recognize the severe cultural and economic effects it would have
23 on many Alaskans; and
24 WHEREAS the State of Alaska recognizes that the harvesting of renew-
25 able resources, such as fur-bearers, by residents of rural Alaska is impor-
26 tant to their economic and cultural survival, and that the harvesting of
27 animals for subsistence and trade is a centuries-old tradition that cannot
28 be replaced without causing severe economic and social hardships;
29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of

1 Alaska stands firmly opposed to the proposal by the British Minister of
2 Trade and Industry; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State of
4 Alaska respectfully requests the Prime Minister and Parliament of Great
5 Britain to rescind the proposal by the British Minister of Trade and Indus-
6 try.

7 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Right Honorable
8 Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of Great Britain; to the Honorable Alan
9 Clark, M.P., Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry, Great
10 Britain; to the Right Honorable Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, M.P., Secretary of
11 State for Foreign and Commonwealth, Great Britain; to the Right Honorable
12 Martin Brian Mulroney, PC, M.P., Prime Minister of Canada; to the Right
13 Honorable Charles Joseph Clark, PC, M.P., Secretary of State for External
14 Affairs, Canada; to the Honorable Thomas Michael McMillan, PC, M.P., Minis-
15 ter of the Environment, Canada; to the Honorable William Hunter McKnight,
16 PC, M.P., Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Canada; to
17 Sir Alan Urwick, British High Commissioner to Canada; to the Honorable Tony
18 Penikett, Government Leader, Yukon Territory, Canada; to the Honorable
19 Dennis Patterson, Government Leader, Northwest Territories; and to Jonathan
20 Motzfeldt, Chairman of the Lannsting, Home Government of Greenland.