

Introduced: 3/31/87  
Referred: Resources  
& Finance

5-0934A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BENNETT

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the protection of the Alaska

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fur industry.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

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WHEREAS it is critical socially and economically to the state to

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protect the Alaska fur industry; and

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WHEREAS the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species

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(CITES) will convene at Ottawa, Canada in July 1987; and

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WHEREAS the World Society for the Protection of Animals and other

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preservation organizations are attempting to expand the endangered species

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list to include lynx and wolverines; and

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WHEREAS placement of these species on the endangered species list will

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curtail international trade in these resources and place unreasonable

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restrictions on Alaskans; and

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WHEREAS lynx, wolverines, and other wild fur-bearing animals are

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important to the fur industry in Alaska, and if properly managed should not

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be declared to be endangered species; and

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WHEREAS Alaskans must become more active in opposing efforts by animal

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preservation organizations to stop properly regulated hunting, fishing, and

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trapping activities; and

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WHEREAS an ad hoc working group of nongovernmental organizations has

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been organized to lobby for the fur industry in Ottawa and there are no

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nongovernmental organizations from Alaska represented in this important

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working group; and

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WHEREAS the CITES bylaws allow citizen participation through nongov-

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ernmental organizations at the Convention; and

1       WHEREAS citizen and other nongovernmental organizations are being  
2 formed in Canada to assist in efforts to stop further listing of fur-bear-  
3 ing trade animals on the endangered species list; and

4       WHEREAS the Alaska Outdoor Council, a nonprofit Alaska organization,  
5 is the largest recognized representative of Alaska sportsmen, trappers, and  
6 other outdoor users and has offered to help coordinate efforts to official-  
7 ly recognize a nongovernmental organization from Alaska; and

8       WHEREAS Alaska trappers in 1984 requested a self-imposed license  
9 increase to promote better management of Alaska's fur resources and to  
10 protect the rights of the trappers and the fur industry in Alaska;

11       BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate that the Alaska Outdoor Council is  
12 requested to form a nongovernmental organization task force to represent  
13 Alaska and to lobby for the Alaska fur industry at the 1987 CITES Conven-  
14 tion; and be it

15       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate requests that the task force be  
16 composed of one member from the Alaska Outdoor Council, one member from the  
17 Alaska Federation of Natives, one member from the Alaska Trappers Asso-  
18 ciation, a furbearer biologist from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,  
19 and one nonaligned member to be selected by the other members; and be it

20       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate requests the Alaska Outdoor Council  
21 task force to select its officers from within its own ranks and to make  
22 available to the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee a report following  
23 the convention.

24       COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Alaska Outdoor Council;  
25 the Alaska Federation of Natives; the Alaska Trappers Association; and to  
26 Don Collinsworth, commissioner of fish and game.