

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL AND FAIKS

2

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Supporting the environmentally sound

6

development and construction of a

7

natural gas pipeline system.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

9 WHEREAS the Senate strongly supports policies that promote economic
10 development and diversification in the state; and

11 WHEREAS the environmentally sound development of the state's vast
12 natural resources offers the most significant opportunity for the state to
13 attain the goal of broadening its economic base through economic develop-
14 ment and diversification; and

15 WHEREAS it is widely recognized that increasing the cultural and trade
16 exchange and dialogue between the people of the state and the people of the
17 Pacific Rim nations is highly desirable; and

18 WHEREAS Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan had a combined trade surplus
19 with the United States of \$81,000,000,000 in 1986; and

20 WHEREAS current oil and gas producers at Prudhoe Bay are reinjecting
21 natural gas at a rate of 2,600,000,000 cubic feet a day because no trans-
22 portation system exists to market this vast resource; and

23 WHEREAS Japan currently consumes 28,000,000 metric tons of natural gas
24 annually; and

25 WHEREAS the Japan Gas Association has forecast that Japanese natural
26 gas consumption will increase to over 42,000,000 metric tons annually by
27 the year 2000; and

28 WHEREAS oil exploration, development, and production have occurred on
29 the state's North Slope without significant adverse environmental effects;

1 and

2 WHEREAS the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System was constructed from Prudhoe
3 Bay to Valdez without significant adverse environmental effects; and

4 WHEREAS the improved expertise in arctic and subarctic construction
5 that was gained from previous North Slope oil and gas development experi-
6 ence has significantly reduced the cost projections for the construction of
7 a natural gas pipeline; and

8 WHEREAS it has been forecast that over 6,000 Alaskans would be
9 employed during the last three years of the construction of a natural gas
10 pipeline and that the peak employment level would be over 10,000;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate strongly supports the environmentally
12 sound development and construction of a natural gas pipeline system in
13 order to provide market access for the vast deposits of natural gas found
14 in the state.