

BY REP. ZAWACKI

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Encouraging the use of reusable products

6

or of biodegradable packaging products

7

made from renewable resources.

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

9 WHEREAS disposable styrofoam and plastic products are known to have a
10 negative effect on the environment; and

11 WHEREAS there is an increasing awareness throughout the United States
12 of present and future problems with solid waste; and

13 WHEREAS the perception that solid waste is not a problem in the state
14 because the state has an infinite amount of space and resources is gradual-
15 ly being replaced with the recognition that the state has a growing solid
16 waste problem; and

17 WHEREAS many residents of the state base their pride and love of the
18 state on its intrinsic beauty; and

19 WHEREAS the consciousness of Alaska residents about recycling and
20 litter prevention is expanding; and

21 WHEREAS other states have been forced to deal with serious solid waste
22 problems because preventive action was not taken; and

23 WHEREAS there are many businesses that continue to use disposable
24 styrofoam and plastic packaging that contribute to the deterioration of the
25 environment by increasing the solid waste problem facing the state; and

26 WHEREAS business packaging techniques can affect the solid waste
27 problem at the state, national, and international level; and

28 WHEREAS, as individuals and public servants in a free market economy,
29 Alaska's legislators have a solemn obligation to make their opinions known;

1 and

2 WHEREAS disposable styrofoam and plastic packaging products are not
3 manufactured in the state, and the state's economy could benefit from
4 promoting the state's renewable timber resource as a source for producing
5 alternative packaging product; and

6 WHEREAS in Portland, Oregon, local government action has been taken to
7 prohibit the use of disposable styrofoam packaging products by food market-
8 ing chains; and

9 WHEREAS Alaska, as well as other states and nations, could benefit if
10 businesses chose to use environmentally friendly packaging products;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature recommends to man-
12 ufacturers, suppliers, and merchandisers that they attempt wherever and
13 whenever possible to substitute reusable products or biodegradable packag-
14 ing products made from renewable resources for disposable styrofoam and
15 plastic packaging products.