

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY SHULTZ

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to management of wildlife on

6

National Park Service land.

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

8 WHEREAS the people of Alaska have a unique and personal dependency on
9 the fish and wildlife resources of the state; and

10 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has the right and duty to manage fish and
11 wildlife in the state; and

12 WHEREAS the Congress acknowledged Alaskans' dependency on fish and
13 wildlife and the right of the state to manage its fish and wildlife re-
14 sources in the Alaska Statehood Act, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act,
15 and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act; and

16 WHEREAS regulations and management regimes for fish and wildlife must
17 not be fragmented by man-made boundaries because uniformity is essential to
18 the continued well-being of the state's fish and wildlife resources, many
19 of which migrate over vast areas of the state; and

20 WHEREAS the National Park Service and the Alaska Department of Fish
21 and Game have entered into a Master Memorandum of Understanding in which
22 the National Park Service agreed to "utilize the state's regulatory process
23 to the maximum extent allowed by federal law in developing new or modifying
24 existing federal regulations or proposing changes in existing state regu-
25 lations governing or affecting the taking of fish and wildlife on service
26 lands in Alaska"; and

27 WHEREAS the National Park Service has implemented regulations that are
28 contrary to state game regulations and the Master Memorandum of Understand-
29 ing; and

1 WHEREAS the regulations may, in the judgment of the Alaska commis-
2 sioner of fish and game, effectively deny subsistence to qualified
3 Alaskans; and

4 WHEREAS the National Park Service has declined to withdraw the regu-
5 lations opposed by the Alaska commissioner of fish and game; and

6 WHEREAS the Alaska commissioner of fish and game has formally peti-
7 tioned the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw certain of these regu-
8 lations;

9 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the impor-
10 tance of sound and uniform management regimes for fish and game resources
11 in the state; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature concurs in the
13 findings of the Alaska commissioner of fish and game that the regulations
14 of the National Park Service usurp the state's traditional role of respon-
15 sibility for management of resident fish and wildlife populations; and be
16 it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
18 quests the United States Secretary of the Interior to withdraw regulations
19 that are contrary to the text and spirit of the Master Memorandum of Under-
20 standing between the National Park Service and the Alaska Department of
21 Fish and Game.

22 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Manuel Lujan,
23 U.S. Secretary of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
24 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
25 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.