

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 68

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Urging the permanent appointment of an

6

Alaskan to the U.S. Court of Appeals for

7

the Ninth Circuit.

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

9 WHEREAS the appellate jurisdiction of the United States Court of  
10 Appeals for the Ninth Circuit includes Alaska and often involves the inter-  
11 pretation of Alaska law and a knowledge of Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS in 1986, 2.27 percent of the appeals filed with the court came  
13 from Alaska; and

14 WHEREAS there are twenty-eight judges on the court and, therefore,  
15 proportionally, at least one judge should be an Alaskan; and

16 WHEREAS in 1980, for the first time in the twenty-one years since  
17 statehood, an Alaskan, Robert Boochever, was appointed to the United States  
18 Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit after serving for eight years as a  
19 justice on the Alaska Supreme Court; and

20 WHEREAS in 1986, after serving with distinction on the court for six  
21 years, Judge Boochever reached the age of retirement and assumed duties as  
22 a senior judge, a change that resulted in a vacancy on the court; and

23 WHEREAS Judge Boochever has moved outside of the state and no other  
24 Alaskan has been appointed to the court; and

25 WHEREAS it is important both to the State of Alaska and to the court  
26 that there always be at least one judge on the court from Alaska;

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the President of  
28 the United States is respectfully requested to fill the next vacancy occur-  
29 ring on the court by appointing an Alaskan to serve on the United States

1 Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and be it

2       **FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that there should be  
3 at all times at least one Alaskan actively sitting on the United States  
4 Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

5       **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,  
6 President of the United States; the Honorable Richard Thornburgh, Attorney  
7 General of the United States; the Honorable Joseph Biden, U.S. Senator and  
8 Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
9 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don  
10 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.