

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 14

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Denouncing plea negotiations between the

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federal government and Exxon Corpora-

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tion.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

9 WHEREAS the State of Alaska, its resources, and its citizens have
10 incurred substantial damages and costs because of the March 24, 1989, EXXON
11 VALDEZ oil spill; and

12 WHEREAS it has been the policy of the state to pursue a vigorous
13 effort to recover full, fair, and just compensation for the damages and
14 costs incurred by the state, its resources, and its citizens; and

15 WHEREAS the state has, in the past, received repeated assurances from
16 the federal government that it will also pursue oil spill compensation
17 vigorously and in full cooperation with the state; and

18 WHEREAS federal officials have confirmed that the federal government
19 is negotiating with the Exxon Corporation to resolve pending criminal
20 charges related to the oil spill through a plea agreement; and

21 WHEREAS it appears that as a result of the proposed plea agreement the
22 ability of the federal government to pursue a full recovery of oil spill
23 costs and damages will be substantially restricted; and

24 WHEREAS the federal government has demanded that the state agree to be
25 bound by the terms of the plea agreement and the state has refused; and

26 WHEREAS federal officials have stated that, in light of the state's
27 refusal to accede to federal demands to be bound by the plea agreement, it
28 will no longer cooperate with the state in pursuing a full, fair, and just
29 recovery for the oil spill damages and costs;

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives that on behalf of the
2 people of the State of Alaska, we call upon the federal government to
3 renounce its proposed pact with the Exxon Corporation and to reaffirm its
4 intent to fully cooperate with the state in pursuit of a full, fair, and
5 just recovery for the damages done to the people and the state's resources
6 by the EXXON VALDEZ oil spill.

7 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard L.
8 Thornburgh, Attorney General of the United States; Edward S. G. Dennis,
9 Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, U. S. Department of
10 Justice; Richard B. Stewart, Assistant Attorney General, Land and Natural
11 Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice; and to the Honorable Ted
12 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable
13 Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Con-
14 gress.