

BY UEHLING, SZYMANSKI,
KERTTULA, JONES, HALFORD,
KELLY, STURGULEWSKI AND FAIKS

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Supporting the development of coal
6 mining at Wishbone Hill.

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

8 WHEREAS the economies of communities in Southcentral Alaska have been
9 slowed in recent years due to a variety of factors; and

10 WHEREAS Alaska's coal reserves are the greatest of any state, yet
11 remain largely undeveloped and untapped; and

12 WHEREAS Alaska has long sought to encourage trade with its neighbors
13 on the Pacific Rim; and

14 WHEREAS Idemitsu Alaska Co., the subsidiary to a large Japanese energy
15 firm, has several state coal leases at Wishbone Hill with intent to mine
16 the coal and export it to Japan; and

17 WHEREAS the Wishbone Hill area has been the site of extensive coal
18 mining activity over the last 70 years; and

19 WHEREAS Idemitsu Alaska Co. anticipates an employment base of 180
20 full-time jobs with an annual payroll of \$10,000,000 for the mine itself;
21 and

22 WHEREAS the State of Alaska, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Alaska
23 Railroad, and the City of Seward would each benefit from increased revenue
24 and employment from royalties, property taxes, indirect effects on trans-
25 portation, and the other services required by an operating mine;

26 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature strongly
27 supports the development of Alaska's natural resources, including the coal
28 deposits at Wishbone Hill; and be it

29 FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature strongly urges that the state

1 agencies offering regulatory and services support to this project do their
2 utmost and take any prudent action necessary to bring this project into
3 operation.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Don W. Collinsworth,
5 commissioner of fish and game; to Lennie Boston-Gorsuch, commissioner of
6 natural resources; to Dennis D. Kelso, commissioner of environmental con-
7 servation; and to Mark S. Hickey, commissioner of transportation and public
8 facilities.