

1 IN THE SENATE

BY STURGULEWSKI, KERTTULA,
SZYMANSKI, KELLY AND COGHILL

2

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the acquisition, preserva-

6

tion, and interpretation of the historic

7

Kennecott Mine by the National Park

8

Service in the Wrangell-St. Elias

9

National Park.

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

11 WHEREAS the state tourist industry is looking for new destinations and
12 experiences to meet the demand made by an increased number of visitors to
13 the state; and

14 WHEREAS the Kennecott Mine site is an historic resource of national
15 significance and has been designated a national historic landmark; and

16 WHEREAS it would benefit the state's economy to establish tourist
17 destinations that encourage tourists to travel throughout the state on its
18 highway system; and

19 WHEREAS the state wants to celebrate in 1992 the 50th anniversary of
20 the completion of the Alaska Highway by adding tourist destinations that
21 are accessible by travelers using the Alaska Highway; and

22 WHEREAS the structures at the Kennecott Mine site are becoming a
23 popular destination for tourists; and

24 WHEREAS the structures are deteriorating rapidly and substantial
25 investment is necessary if they are to be stabilized and preserved; and

26 WHEREAS the Alaska Historical Society, the Alaska Association for
27 Historic Preservation, and the Alaska Office of History and Archeology in
28 the Department of Natural Resources have all expressed support for the
29 acquisition by the National Park Service of the Kennecott Mine site

1 property as part of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, and for the
2 preservation and interpretation of the site by the National Park Service;
3 and

4 WHEREAS the structures at the Kennecott Mine site are located on
5 private property in the center of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park; and

6 WHEREAS the owners of the Kennecott Mine site property have offered a
7 partial donation and sale of their property to the National Park Service;
8 and

9 WHEREAS the state understands that the United States Department of the
10 Interior is considering the acquisition and preservation of the Kennecott
11 Mine site property by the National Park Service; and

12 WHEREAS local residents and the McCarthy-Kennecott Historical Museum
13 support the acquisition and preservation of the Kennecott Mine site proper-
14 ty by the National Park Service as an historic site and visitor attraction;

15 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports the acquisi-
16 tion and preservation of the Kennecott Mine site property by the National
17 Park Service as a visitor attraction in the Wrangell-St. Elias National
18 Park, and the establishment of an interpretation facility at the site by
19 the National Park Service.

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