

BY JONES, BINKLEY, ELIASON,
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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to economic sanctions against

6

Taiwan for high seas interception of

7

Alaska salmon and steelhead.

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

9 WHEREAS salmon and steelhead are a vital part of the commercial and
10 sport fishing industries of the western coast of the United States and
11 contribute billions of dollars to the national economy each year; and

12 WHEREAS Alaska salmon and steelhead are among the state's most impor-
13 tant natural resources; and

14 WHEREAS Alaska salmon and steelhead are fully utilized by domestic
15 fisheries, constitute the primary economic base of many coastal and river
16 communities in the state, and are important to the state's developing
17 tourist industry; and

18 WHEREAS high seas harvests of Alaska salmon defeat the state's careful
19 fisheries management and enhancement programs for salmon and deprive the
20 state of an economic return on its investment in salmon hatcheries; and

21 WHEREAS poor salmon runs in Alaska in 1988, the increased incidence of
22 net marked salmon and steelhead, and recent reports of large quantities of
23 illegally harvested salmon being sold in Europe and Asia have heightened
24 public concern over high seas interception of salmon and steelhead; and

25 WHEREAS the agencies and organizations monitoring the high seas inter-
26 ception of salmon believe that about 10,000 metric tons of salmon were
27 caught in 1988, primarily by Taiwanese fishermen who market the salmon
28 through Singapore, Thailand, and other countries; and

29 WHEREAS the Taiwanese squid fleet now contains more than 100 vessels,

1 most of which fish with gill net gear that is just the right size to cap-
2 ture immature salmon on the high seas, and is virtually unregulated and
3 unmonitored; and

4 WHEREAS tens of thousands of marine mammals and hundreds of thousands
5 of sea birds may die in Taiwanese gill nets each year; and

6 WHEREAS Taiwan is not a member of the International North Pacific
7 Fisheries Commission or any other treaty organization for North Pacific
8 fisheries; and

9 WHEREAS the United States Secretary of Commerce has yet to reach
10 agreements with Taiwan for monitoring of fishing activities of the Tai-
11 wanese drift net fishing fleet and enforcement of fishing laws and agree-
12 ments as directed by the Driftnet Impact Monitoring, Assessment, and Con-
13 trol Act of 1987 (P.L. 100-220); and

14 WHEREAS the prospects for reaching monitoring and enforcement agree-
15 ments with Taiwan by June 30, 1989, are very poor; and

16 WHEREAS the failure of Taiwan to enter into monitoring and enforcement
17 agreements with the United States by June 30, 1989, will result in a certi-
18 fication to the President under section 8(a) of the Fishermen's Protective
19 Act of 1967, known as the Pelly Amendment, that Taiwanese fishermen are
20 conducting fishing operations in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness
21 of international fishery conservation programs; and

22 WHEREAS the President may, under the Pelly Amendment, prohibit the
23 importation into the United States of fish and aquatic products from an
24 offending nation; and

25 WHEREAS the value of products that may be subject to a sanction under
26 the Pelly Amendment against Taiwan was \$445,000,000 in 1987;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
28 the President to invoke immediately the full extent of Pelly Amendment
29 sanctions that are possible against Taiwan if Taiwan fails to enter into

1 monitoring and enforcement agreements by June 30, 1989, as required by the
2 Driftnet Impact Monitoring, Assessment, and Control Act.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
4 President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of
5 the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable James A.
6 Baker, III, U.S. Secretary of State; the Honorable Edward E. Wolfe, U.S.
7 Ambassador for Fisheries and the Ocean; the Honorable Robert A. Mosbacher,
8 U.S. Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S.
9 House of Representatives; the Honorable George J. Mitchell, U.S. Senate
10 Majority Leader; the members of the California, Oregon, and Washington
11 delegations in Congress; the governors of the states of California, Oregon,
12 and Washington; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
13 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
14 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.