

Original sponsor(s): SEN. COGHILL, Halford, Adams, Jones, Fischer, Kelly

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 64 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to federal funding for local
6 fish and game advisory committees and
7 regional councils under the Alaska
8 National Interest Lands Conservation
9 Act.
10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
11 WHEREAS section 805(e) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conserva-
12 tion Act (ANILCA) (P.L. 96-487) authorizes the Congress to reimburse the
13 State of Alaska for up to 50 percent of the costs, up to a maximum of
14 \$5,000,000 per year, incurred for operation of the fish and game advisory
15 committee and regional council system; and
16 WHEREAS the annual federal reimbursement has rarely exceeded
17 \$1,000,000 and currently has dropped to \$750,000; and
18 WHEREAS the annual federal reimbursement has never approached 50
19 percent of the total annual cost of the fish and game advisory committee
20 and regional council system; and
21 WHEREAS the fish and game advisory committees and regional councils
22 have experienced severe reductions in the funds allocated for their opera-
23 tion such that their ability to carry out their responsibilities under
24 Title VIII of ANILCA has been significantly impaired; and
25 WHEREAS the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department
26 of Interior have not actively supported requests by fish and game regional
27 councils to increase the amount of reimbursement paid to the State of
28 Alaska;
29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

1 the Secretary of the Interior to take immediate steps to obtain additional
2 reimbursement funds to ensure that local fish and game advisory committees
3 and regional councils mandated by the Alaska National Interest Lands Con-
4 servation Act can function effectively.

5 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
6 President of the United States; the Honorable Manuel Lujan, Jr., Secretary
7 of the Interior; to Walter Stieglitz, Alaska Regional Director, U.S. Fish
8 and Wildlife Service; the Honorable Richard L. Thornburgh, Attorney General
9 of the United States; Kenneth W. Starr, Solicitor General, U.S. Department
10 of Justice; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
11 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
12 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.