

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to local purchase of plastic

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milk bottles by the Matanuska Maid

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Dairy.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

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WHEREAS Matanuska Maid is a state-owned producer of dairy products  
10 that creates local jobs by adding value to products in the state; and

11 WHEREAS in doing so, Matanuska Maid relies on the willingness of  
12 consumers and some government agencies to pay a higher price for its prod-  
13 ucts in order to support local jobs; and

14 WHEREAS, from 1984 through 1989, Matanuska Maid purchased its plastic,  
15 one gallon milk bottles from a local manufacturer, WETCO; and

16 WHEREAS Matanuska Maid is the largest single purchaser of plastic milk  
17 bottles in the state; and

18 WHEREAS supplying Matanuska Maid has served as the cornerstone of  
19 WETCO's manufacturing business by providing the economies of scale required  
20 to make such manufacturing possible in the state; and

21 WHEREAS the management of Matanuska Maid recently decided to purchase  
22 its plastic milk bottles from a Seattle supplier in order to save money on  
23 the bottles directly, as well as to obtain a more attractive shipping rate  
24 on all of its imported products; and

25 WHEREAS that decision has caused the layoff of 12 WETCO employees and  
26 may force the closure of the WETCO plant; and

27 WHEREAS the associated negative publicity has also hurt Matanuska Maid  
28 in terms of the goodwill of Alaska customers; and

29 WHEREAS WETCO is willing to meet the price required by Matanuska

1 Maid's management before its decision to buy from a Seattle supplier and  
2 remains willing to address in good faith other related issues;

3 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Senate hereby encourages Matanuska Maid  
4 to reconsider its decision to purchase plastic milk bottles from a non-  
5 Alaska supplier in the interest of maintaining Alaska manufacturing jobs,  
6 remaining true to its role in the Alaska economy, and rebuilding customer  
7 goodwill.