

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

Introduced: 5/2/91

Referred: Today's Calendar

A RESOLUTION

1 **Disapproving the proposed Exxon Valdez oil spill settlement and suggesting amendments.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the Attorney General has negotiated a proposed settlement of most of the state's
4 claims arising from the Exxon Valdez oil spill; and

5 **WHEREAS** under the terms of the proposed settlement the legislature has been granted an
6 opportunity to review the settlement and to express its approval or disapproval of it; and

7 **WHEREAS** the House Special Committee on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Claims Settlement has
8 carefully reviewed the proposed settlement, and has concluded that it should be disapproved unless
9 certain changes are made;

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the proposed settlement is disapproved
11 as written; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the parties to the proposed settlement are requested to amend the
13 proposed settlement in the following respects:

14 (1) to provide for the payment of at least \$700,000,000 within one year of the date the
15 settlement is approved;

16 (2) to provide for a plea agreement establishing a criminal fine of at least \$500,000,000,
17 with at least \$100,000,000 of the fine to be remitted on payment of that amount to the State of Alaska

1 as restitution for economic losses incurred by the state as a result of the oil spill, and with at least
2 \$300,000,000 of the fine to be remitted on payment of that amount into the trust fund established in the
3 civil settlement, as restitution for damages to natural resources;

4 (3) to provide that there shall be no deduction from state taxes of any amounts payable
5 under the settlement;

6 (4) to provide for membership of two members of the legislature as ex officio nonvoting
7 members of the trustee board governing the operation of the trust fund established in the civil settlement;

8 (5) to provide that the state's share of the funds recovered in the civil settlement shall
9 be subject to appropriation into the trust fund, and expenditures from the trust fund of the state's share
10 shall be subject to appropriation by the Alaska State Legislature;

11 (6) to provide that if the trust fund is found to be an unconstitutional dedicated fund, the
12 civil settlement shall in all other respects be maintained;

13 (7) to provide that the funding decisions of the trustees of the trust fund shall be made
14 with input from a broad-based citizens' advisory board, and that the trustees shall comply with Alaska
15 law regarding open meetings, public records, and adoption of regulations;

16 (8) to provide that scientific and economic data obtained by the state shall be released
17 unless the state demonstrates that the data is privileged, and that release of the information would
18 materially and substantially harm the state's case in pending litigation;

19 (9) to clarify the status of third-party claims and claims for damages to archaeological
20 resources;

21 (10) to require the parties to enter good faith negotiations to resolve the claims of third
22 parties; and

23 (11) to delete the "reopener" clause.