

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 35
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES M.A.MILLER, Sharp

Introduced: 4/2/91

Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to support for the existing federal mining law system.

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

3 WHEREAS the federal government is and will continue to be the largest landowner in the State
4 of Alaska; and

5 WHEREAS 165,400,000 acres of federal Parks, Preserves, wildlife refuges, wilderness, and other
6 federal land in Alaska are closed to all forms of economic development, including mineral exploration
7 and mining; and

8 WHEREAS 49,600,000 acres of federal land in Alaska are still open to mineral exploration and
9 mining; and

10 WHEREAS a healthy mining industry can provide new jobs in many remote parts of Alaska,
11 jobs that are well-paying, year-round, and skilled; and

12 WHEREAS the existing federal mining law system has served our nation well since it was first
13 enacted in 1872; and

14 WHEREAS the existing federal mining law system has been amended more than 50 times to
15 accommodate changing conditions; and

16 WHEREAS mining must already comply with numerous state and federal laws concerning water

1 and air quality, reclamation, land management, health and safety; and

2 **WHEREAS** if individuals and companies risk their time and money in search of economic
3 mineral deposits, they must have a reasonable assurance that they will be able to mine the minerals they
4 find;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the existing federal mining law
6 system; and be it

7 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States Congress to
8 continue to support the existing federal mining law system.

9 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
10 States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate;
11 the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Manuel
12 Lujan, Jr., Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Edward Madigan, Secretary of Agriculture; the
13 Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Chair of the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural
14 Resources; the Honorable George Miller, Vice-Chair and acting Chair, House Interior and Insular Affairs
15 Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
16 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.