

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 5
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/21/91
Referred: Today's Calendar

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the plea agreement in United States v. Exxon.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

3 WHEREAS the T/V Exxon Valdez oil spill of March 1989 and the actions taken by the United
4 States, the State of Alaska, and Exxon Corporation as a result of that spill have had a tremendous effect
5 on the people, land, and natural resources of Alaska; and

6 WHEREAS certain proposed agreements relating to the T/V Exxon Valdez oil spill have been
7 entered into by or between the United States, the State of Alaska, and Exxon Corporation and certain
8 of its subsidiaries; and

9 WHEREAS these agreements would provide for the settlement of various civil claims and
10 criminal charges brought by the United States and the State of Alaska against Exxon Corporation and
11 certain of its subsidiaries; and

12 WHEREAS the House of Representatives is presently reviewing these agreements in order to
13 determine, among other things, whether the agreements are constitutional and in the best interest of
14 Alaska; and

15 WHEREAS the review being conducted by the House of Representatives is not expected to be
16 completed until May 3, 1991; and

17 WHEREAS one of the agreements under review by the House of Representatives is the plea

1 agreement entered into by the parties in United States of America v. Exxon Corporation and Exxon
2 Shipping Company, No. A90-015 CR; and

3 **WHEREAS** a hearing on that plea agreement is scheduled for Friday, March 22, 1991, before
4 the United States District Court for the District of Alaska; and

5 **WHEREAS** the House of Representatives is concerned that the approval of the plea agreement
6 by the United States District Court prior to the time the House completes its review of all the settlement
7 agreements will not be in the best interest of Alaska;

8 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives respectfully requests the parties to the plea
9 agreement in United States of America v. Exxon Corporation and Exxon Shipping Company to request
10 the United States District Court to take no final action on the plea agreement prior to May 3, 1991; and
11 be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that if the parties refuse to accede to this request, the House of
13 Representatives respectfully requests the United States District Court for the District of Alaska to take
14 judicial notice of this official act of the House of Representatives and on its own motion delay final
15 approval of the plea agreement in United States of America v. Exxon Corporation and Exxon Shipping
16 Company until May 3, 1991.

17 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to Joseph G. Block, Chief, Environmental Crimes
18 Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division, United States Department of Justice; Charles A.
19 DeMonaco, Assistant Chief, Environmental Crimes Section, Environment and Natural Resources
20 Division, United States Department of Justice; Eric W. Nagle, Trial Attorney, United States Department
21 of Justice; Mark R. Davis, Special Assistant United States Attorney; Mark B. Harmon, Trial Attorney,
22 United States Department of Justice; James F. Neal, Counsel for Exxon Shipping; E. Edward Bruce,
23 Counsel for Exxon Shipping; Robert C. Bundy, Counsel for Exxon Shipping; Edward J. Lynch, Counsel
24 for Exxon Corporation; John F. Clough III, Counsel for Exxon Corporation; and to the Honorable H.
25 Russel Holland, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the District of Alaska.

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