

**CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 (RESOURCES)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/17/92**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS ZHAROFF, Pearce**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Relating to the discharge of ballast water by vessels entering the waters of Alaska.**

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

**3 WHEREAS** Alaska's subsistence, commercial, and recreational fisheries are important to the  
**4 economy of the state and are essential to the lifestyle of the people of the state; and**

**5 WHEREAS** the fishery resources and other aquatic resources of the state are threatened by the  
**6 introduction of exotic aquatic organisms brought into Alaska in the ballast water of tankers and freighters**  
**7 arriving from foreign ports; and**

**8 WHEREAS** in recent years, several exotic planktonic and benthic organisms have arrived and  
**9 become established in the estuarine and coastal waters of the contiguous states of the United States; and**

**10 WHEREAS** an exotic organism is suspected of causing a great decline in the abundance of  
**11 important food for striped bass in the Sacramento-San Joaquin estuary of California; and**

**12 WHEREAS** exotic eel grass arriving in the ballast of sea-going vessels has created problems in  
**13 Humboldt Bay and other estuaries of the Pacific Coast of the United States; and**

**14 WHEREAS** other introductions of exotic organisms probably have occurred and will occur in  
**15 the estuarine and coastal waters of the Pacific Coast of the United States; and**

**16 WHEREAS** similar introductions of exotic organisms have occurred in the Great Lakes and have

1 caused harm to the fisheries of the Great Lakes; and

2       **WHEREAS** protection of natural aquatic ecosystems and the native fish and other native aquatic  
3 organisms of Alaska is very important to the people of Alaska;

4       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the U.S. Coast Guard  
5 to adopt regulations

6               (1) prohibiting the discharge of ballast water that originated in a foreign port into a river,  
7 estuary, bay, or coastal water of Alaska; and

8               (2) requiring ballast water that originated in a foreign port to be discharged at sea and  
9 replaced with ocean water before a vessel enters the waters of Alaska.

10       **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Andrew H. Card, Secretary of the U.S.  
11 Department of Transportation; to the Honorable Barbara H. Franklin, Secretary of the U.S. Department  
12 of Commerce; to Admiral William J. Kime, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; and to the Honorable  
13 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
14 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.