

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 25**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY SENATOR MENARD**

**Introduced: 4/2/91**  
**Referred: Resources**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Relating to regulation of underground petroleum storage tanks.**

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

**3 WHEREAS** the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted regulations in 1986 that  
**4 extensively regulated underground petroleum storage tanks; and**

**5 WHEREAS** these EPA regulations require all owners and operators to demonstrate a minimum  
**6 of \$1,000,000 in financial responsibility for pollution cleanup, with owners of 1 to 12 tanks required to**  
**7 meet this requirement by October 26, 1991; and**

**8 WHEREAS** most owners and operators who have any degree of contamination on their property  
**9 are unable to meet the financial responsibility requirements, thus facing fines of up to \$10,000 a day,**  
**10 which would have a particularly severe effect on small businesses; and**

**11 WHEREAS** the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature demonstrated a good faith intent to comply  
**12 with the EPA regulations by enacting AS 46.03.360 - 46.03.450, which regulate underground petroleum**  
**13 storage tanks and provide financial assistance to owners of underground petroleum storage tanks to help**  
**14 them meet all the requirements of the EPA regulations; and**

**15 WHEREAS** the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has demonstrated an intent  
**16 to assume responsibility for regulation of underground petroleum storage tanks in this state; and**

1           **WHEREAS** owners and operators of storage tanks in Alaska, like in many states, are still in the  
2 process of assessing the extent of their pollution problems and the state is still in the process of  
3 determining the best course of action to protect both the state's groundwater and its local economy;

4           **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Environmental  
5 Protection Agency to delay the implementation of federal regulations requiring a minimum of \$1,000,000  
6 in financial responsibility for private storage tank owners for at least one year in Alaska in order to allow  
7 owners and operators of the tanks adequate time to complete site assessment and to address potential  
8 pollution problems so that they can meet the financial responsibility requirements.

9           **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to William K. Reilly, Administrator of the United States  
10 Environmental Protection Agency; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
11 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska  
12 delegation in Congress.