

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY SENATORS FRANK, Pearce, Shultz, Sturgulewski, Uehling, Halford, Collins**

Introduced: 4/5/91  
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.