

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 55
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 4/21/92
Referred: Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

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

3 WHEREAS public concern about protecting the global environment continues to grow as
4 evidence mounts of the long-term damage being done to the Earth by global climate change, toxic waste,
5 freshwater and ocean pollution, and loss of biological diversity; and

6 WHEREAS environmental problems are inextricably linked with economic and trade policies;
7 and

8 WHEREAS states have many critical responsibilities with respect to supporting responsible
9 economic development as well as for environmental protection and natural resource management
10 including land-use planning, transportation, solid and hazardous waste management, and procurement
11 policies; and

12 WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature recognizes that problems such as global climate change,
13 diminishing biological diversity, ozone depletion, and ocean pollution can only be solved with
14 cooperation at all levels of government; and

15 WHEREAS, in June 1992, the world's leaders will gather in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for the
16 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, otherwise known as the Earth

1 Summit) to define new and bold steps to achieve solutions to the planet's environmental and economic
2 development problems; and

3 **WHEREAS** the Earth Summit will pay special attention to concerns regarding global climate
4 change, ozone depletion, toxic waste, diminishing biological diversity, and ocean and freshwater
5 resources;

6 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature endorses the goals and objectives of the
7 Earth Summit, particularly with respect to the creation and adoption of global agreements that will result
8 in policies and mechanisms to protect the global environment and enhance the ability of nations to
9 equitably develop their natural and human resources; and be it

10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature calls upon the President of the United
11 States to join other leaders from around the world at the Earth Summit and encourages the President to
12 instruct United States' negotiators to work with other national delegations in crafting an international
13 protocol on global climate change that would reduce this nation's emissions of carbon dioxide by 20
14 percent by the year 2000, and thus reestablish the United States' role as a leader in managing the
15 planet's resources for present and future generations.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
17 States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and president of the U.S. Senate;
18 the Honorable Robert C. Byrd, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S.
19 Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; Mr. Maurice F. Strong, Secretary-General of the
20 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and
21 the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
22 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.