

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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

**Introduced: 5/21/91
Made a Special Order of Business**

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to support for the existing federal mining law system.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

**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 Senate supports the existing federal mining law system; and be it

6 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate urges the United States Congress to continue to support
7 the existing federal mining law system.

8 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
9 States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate;
10 the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Manuel
11 Lujan, Jr., Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Edward Madigan, Secretary of Agriculture; the
12 Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Chair of the United States Senate Committee on Energy and Natural
13 Resources; the Honorable George Miller, Vice-Chair and acting Chair, House Interior and Insular Affairs
14 Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
15 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.