

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES SANDERS, Olberg, Brice, Brown

Introduced: 4/13/93
Referred: Rules

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Environmental Protection Agency to request a moratorium from the
2 Congress for the MTBE oxygenated fuels programs in Anchorage and Fairbanks,
3 Alaska.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

5 WHEREAS preliminary findings from an epidemiology study performed by the
6 Department of Health and Social Services, released on December 23, 1992, led to the
7 recommendation that the oxygenated fuels program in Anchorage should be suspended; and

8 WHEREAS preliminary findings from an epidemiology study performed by the
9 Department of Health and Social Services, released on December 11, 1992, led to the
10 recommendation that the oxygenated fuels program in Fairbanks should be suspended; and

11 WHEREAS the health effects of blending methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) with
12 gasoline are unknown, especially in exceptionally cold climates such as in Anchorage and
13 Fairbanks; and

14 WHEREAS a significant number of Anchorage and Fairbanks residents have asked
15 for a suspension of the MTBE oxygenated fuels program through petition signatures, opinions
16 expressed at public forums, letters, phone calls, and public opinion messages to legislators;

1 and

2 **WHEREAS** there are other methods, such as natural gas vehicles and increased bus
3 service, for reducing carbon monoxide pollution; and

4 **WHEREAS** the oxygenated fuels program could be reintroduced if the cold weather
5 health effects of MTBE-blended oxyfuels are determined to be safe to human health;

6 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State House of Representatives urges the
7 Environmental Protection Agency to request a moratorium from the Congress for the
8 Anchorage and Fairbanks oxygenated fuels programs so that they are not resumed for the
9 winter of 1993 - 1994 unless complete and conclusive studies clearly show that MTBE-
10 blended fuels are not harmful to our citizens' health and that MTBE-blended fuels are the
11 most effective way to reduce carbon monoxide pollution in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

12 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to Carol M. Browner, Administrator of the
13 Environmental Protection Agency; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
14 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of
15 the Alaska delegation in Congress; and to the Honorable Tom Fink, Mayor, Municipality of
16 Anchorage; and the Honorable Jim Sampson, Mayor, Fairbanks North Star Borough.