

CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20(RES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/6/94

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the responsible development of mining in Juneau.

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

3 WHEREAS the Alaska-Juneau Mine (A-J Mine) was one of the world's largest gold
4 mines until it was closed during World War II; and

5 WHEREAS Echo Bay Alaska, Inc., is in the process of evaluating the feasibility of
6 reopening the A-J Mine and is seeking the necessary state and federal permits; and

7 WHEREAS the City and Borough of Juneau, after a lengthy public hearing process,
8 granted a large mine permit to Echo Bay Alaska, Inc., in April 1993 to enable the reopening
9 of the A-J Mine; and

10 WHEREAS, since issuance of the large mine permit, the City and Borough of Juneau
11 has assisted Echo Bay, Alaska, Inc., in meeting permit requirements and regulatory
12 requirements of other agencies; and

13 WHEREAS the A-J Mine presents an opportunity for private economic development
14 in the State of Alaska; and

15 WHEREAS private economic development will diversify the Juneau economy and
16 provide economic benefits to the state in increased private sector employment and in increased

1 purchases of goods and services in the City and Borough of Juneau and throughout
2 Southeastern Alaska; and

3 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the efforts of Echo Bay Alaska,
4 Inc., to reestablish this historic mining development; and

5 **WHEREAS** the public is best served when the governmental process is open and fair
6 to all interests and concerns and the public is informed of all aspects of the project;

7 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages state and federal
8 regulatory agencies to continue their timely and public review of the environmental effects of
9 the A-J Mine with appropriate diligence; and be it

10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports responsible
11 development of the A-J Mine in a manner that maintains Juneau's air and water quality
12 standards and ensures the continued health and safety of the citizens of Juneau.

13 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to Echo Bay Alaska, Inc., the City and
14 Borough of Juneau, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Alaska
15 Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.