

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Introduced: 2/17/93
Referred: RES, JUD

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to efforts by the government of Mexico to protect gray whales.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** in the mid-nineteenth century so many gray whales were killed that they
4 became classified as economically extinct; and

5 **WHEREAS** the species began to recover early in the twentieth century only to be
6 nearly wiped out again with the advent of mechanized whaling techniques; and

7 **WHEREAS** the government of Mexico has supported efforts to protect gray whale
8 breeding grounds in Baja, California; and

9 **WHEREAS** today between 17,000 and 24,000 gray whales migrate each year from the
10 Bering, Chukchi, and western Beaufort Seas to breeding grounds off Baja, California; and

11 **WHEREAS** gray whales delight more than 2,000,000 whale watchers off the western
12 coast of the United States each year; and

13 **WHEREAS** the International Whaling Commission has reclassified gray whales from
14 protected stock to the status of sustained management stock;

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature expresses its appreciation for
16 the efforts made by the government of Mexico to protect gray whales and to encourage their

1 recovery as a species.

2 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Carlos Salinas de Gortari,
3 President of Mexico; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,
4 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
5 delegation in Congress.