

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 24
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR LINCOLN

Introduced: 2/26/93
Referred: RES, JUD, FIN

A RESOLUTION

1 **Requesting the Department of Commerce to give a high priority to fisheries**
2 **development project grants for the Alaska salmon industry.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** the salmon industry of Alaska, once the shining star of the seafood
5 industry of the United States, is suffering global competition that threatens the nation's
6 worldwide competitiveness and critically diminishes the benefits the nation receives from
7 Alaska's fisheries; and

8 **WHEREAS** Alaska's salmon production has historically constituted a major
9 component of the nation's seafood production through this century, yet the Alaska salmon
10 industry has not received any governmental assistance for development of the salmon industry,
11 other than for promotion of salmon products; and

12 **WHEREAS**, 10 years ago, Alaska produced 40 percent of the world's salmon
13 products, but now Alaska's share of world salmon production is 30 percent and is dropping
14 due to subsidized salmon farming around the world and emergence of Russian salmon on the
15 world's markets; and

16 **WHEREAS** the Alaska salmon industry must improve its processing technology,

1 investigate new value-added uses for salmon, develop new quality assurance criteria, create
2 new and diverse market opportunities, and open up new lines of communication between the
3 Alaska salmon industry and the nation's food processing industry in order to remain
4 competitive on world markets; and

5 **WHEREAS** governmental assistance to the Alaska salmon industry through the
6 Saltonstall-Kennedy Act will benefit the nation through hundreds of millions of dollars in
7 increased revenue to this broad-based industry, enhance one of Alaska's and the nation's
8 greatest natural resources, and reduce our nation's foreign trade deficit;

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
10 Secretary of Commerce to give a high priority to grants for fisheries development projects
11 under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act that will enhance the Alaska salmon industry through
12 improvements in fish processing technology, development of new salmon seafood products,
13 development of new quality assurance criteria, creation of new and diverse market
14 opportunities, and communication between salmon seafood producers and the nation's food
15 processing industry.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
17 United States; the Honorable Ronald H. Brown, Secretary of the U.S. Department of
18 Commerce; the Honorable Leon E. Pannetta, Director of the Office of Management and
19 Budget; the Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S.
20 Department of Commerce; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
21 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of
22 the Alaska delegation in Congress.