

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS JACKO, Halford, Taylor, Miller, Zharoff, Duncan, Pearce, Leman, Lincoln

REPRESENTATIVES Olberg, Sanders, Sitton, Mackie, Moses, Hanley, Ulmer

Introduced: 3/5/93

Referred: Rules

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to United States Coast Guard commercial fishing vessel safety regulations.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the United States Coast Guard has proposed regulations on commercial
4 fishing vessel safety; and

5 **WHEREAS** the Coast Guard has not allowed sufficient time for commercial fishermen
6 and the commercial fishing industry to study the complex proposed regulations and to
7 meaningfully respond to the proposed regulations; and

8 **WHEREAS** the proposed regulations may be difficult for existing commercial fishing
9 vessels to meet and may pose a significant financial burden on commercial fishermen and the
10 commercial fishing industry; and

11 **WHEREAS** the proposed regulations do not recognize the necessity to continually
12 alter and improve fishing vessels to enhance the vessel's performance;

13 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the United
14 States Coast Guard to

15 (1) extend the comment period on proposed commercial fishing vessel safety
16 regulations in order to provide commercial fishermen and the commercial fishing industry a

1 total of at least 120 days to comment on the proposed regulations;

2 (2) hold public hearings on proposed commercial fishing vessel safety
3 regulations before closing the comment period on the proposed regulations;

4 (3) respond to suggestions made by commercial fishermen and the commercial
5 fishing industry regarding stability tests, bulkhead changes on existing vessels, and other topics
6 important to commercial fishermen and the commercial fishing industry;

7 (4) incorporate into the proposed commercial fishing vessel safety regulations
8 the suggestions and recommendations made by private or independent naval architects familiar
9 with commercial fishing and commercial fishing vessels on the Pacific Coast;

10 (5) propose commercial fishing vessel safety regulations for commercial fishing
11 vessels that are under 79 feet in length only after the commercial fishing industry has accepted
12 international commercial fishing vessel safety standards; and

13 (6) delay the effective date of final commercial fishing vessel safety regulations
14 applicable to existing and new commercial fishing vessels for a minimum of one year after
15 the final regulations are published.

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
17 United States; the Honorable Federico Pena, Secretary of the U.S. Department of
18 Transportation; Admiral J. William Kime, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; the
19 Executive Secretary, Marine Safety Council, U.S. Coast Guard, and to the Honorable Ted
20 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
21 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.