

HCR

27

IDENTIFICATION:

BILL NUMBER: HCR 27

BILL NAME: Requesting state to collect + use information on trapping for land use planning + land disposal

SPONSOR(S): Hurlbert

RELATED BILLS PENDING:

DATE INTRODUCED: 4-25-83

REFERRALS: Resources

INITIAL RESEARCH:

BILL SUMMARY COMPLETED:

SUMMARY BY LEGAL DIVISION:

SPONSOR CONTACTED FOR BACKUP MATERIALS:

DEPT. OF LAW SUMMARY:

FISCAL NOTE:

AGENCY RESPONSE:

OTHER INTERESTED SENATORS OR REPS. NOTIFIED:

Oxford

BACKGROUND RESEARCH:

SIMILAR BILLS INTRODUCED IN PREVIOUS LEGISLATURES:

RESPONSES FROM INTERESTED PERSONS/GROUPS:

OTHER STATE OR FEDERAL PRECEDENTS, REGULATIONS, LAWS:

HEARING PREPARATION:

CHAIRMAN BRIEFED:

DATE AND PLACE SET:

STAFF MEMO TO COMMITTEE:

TELECONFERENCE:

BACKGROUND MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED:

PSA/PRESS RELEASE:

LIST OF WITNESSES:

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES DRAFTED:

Norm Phillips (AK Trappers) - 452-4753 (Doyon) Bx 60418 - Fbx 99706

Jim Kowalsky, TCC - 452-8253

- ✓ Rep. Hurlbert 3199 ~~Requester~~ Jim Farmer (gave CS 5/24)
- ✓ DNR, Sharon Barton (gave CS 5/24)

Alaska State Legislature



BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
VIC FISCHER
BOB MULCAHY
ARLISS STURGULEWSKI

POUCH V
STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3834
(907) 465-3835

Senate

Committee on Resources

MINUTES

June 10, 1983
3:10 p.m.

Beltz Room
Room 211, Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Fahrenkamp, Chair
Senator Ziegler, Vice Chair
Senator P. Fischer

Senator Mulcahy
Senator Sturgulewski

CALENDAR

- HCR 31 Relating to protection and preservation of the Kenai River.
- SB 43 An Act granting homesteads to Alaska citizens; and providing for an effective date.
- SB 102 An Act relating to homesteads; and providing for an effective date.
- HB 130 An Act relating to homesteads; and providing for an effective date.
- HCR 37 Relating to an economic development policy.
- HCR 27 Requesting the state to collect and use information on trapping for land use planning and land disposal.

HCR 31

Representative Fritz, sponsor of HCR 31, explained why the resolution is needed and urged its passage.

Senator Gilman supported the bill, and pointed out that the resolution will not solve the problems of the Kenai River, but will more succinctly identify them.

There was discussion of fiscal notes, the need for a Senate letter of intent, and regulatory power.

Jay Hogan, director of the Office of Management and Budget Governmental Coordination, said the Administration supports the resolution and stated that necessary work could be done between departments with existing funds.

Randy Bayliss, Department of Environmental Conservation, supported the intent of the resolution.

Senator Fahrenkamp said the bill would be held until Monday, 6/13.

HB 130, SB 43, and SB 130

Sharon Barton, Department of Natural Resources, explained how a homestead program would fit in with current land disposal programs offered by the State. She addressed the provisions of the proposed committee substitute for HB 130, and recommended a lottery be used to limit the number of stakers in some areas.

Doug Wood, Alaska Environmental Lobby, encouraged study of whether a homestead program is necessary and urged a restriction on conveyance to limit speculation.

HCR 37

Dave Gray, Resource Development Council, supported the resolution.

Senator Sturgulewski moved to report HCR 37 out of committee with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

HCR 27

Senator Fahrenkamp said HCR 27 would be held over until Monday.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
VIC FISCHER
BOB MULCAHY
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POUCH V
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Senate Committee on Resources

MINUTES

June 13, 1983
3:04 p.m.

Beltz Room
Room 211, Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Fahrenkamp, Chair	Senator V. Fischer
Senator Ziegler, Vice Chair	Senator Mulcahy
Senator Eliason	Senator Sturgulewski
Senator P. Fischer	

CALENDAR

- HCR 31 Relating to protection and preservation of the Kenai River.
- HCR 27 Requesting the state to collect and use information on trapping for land use planning and land disposal.
- HB 130 An Act relating to homesteads; and providing for an effective date.
- SB 219 An Act relating to the processing of permits by state agencies; and providing for an effective date.

HCR 31

Representative Fritz, sponsor of the resolution, encouraged support of the resolution, and proposed deleting the last resolve clause in the measure in order to remove the fiscal impact.

Jay Nelson, Alaska Environmental Lobby, said that the Kenai Peninsula Conservation Society and the Katchemak Bay Conservation Society both favored the resolution, and he encouraged passage of the measure.

Senator Mulcahy moved that lines 18-22, page 2, be deleted, and asked unanimous consent. The motion passed without objection.

Senator Mulcahy moved that the Resources Committee Substitute be adopted and reported out with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

HCR 27

Sandra Schubert, Resources Committee staff, explained the differences between the proposed committee substitute and the original resolution.

Kay Wallace, staff to Representative Hurlbert, said the Representative supported the committee substitute and encouraged the Committee's support.

Senator Mulcahy moved that the Resources Committee Substitute be reported out of Committee with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

HB 130

Pat Pourchot, Resources Committee aide, explained the proposed committee substitute. He outlined requirements for homesteads and obtaining patent. He said the committee substitute tried to simplify and combine a homestead program and the existing remote parcel program. He explained an amendment proposed by the Department of Natural Resources which would allow the Department to limit the number of stakers in a lottery, when necessary.

Representative Rick Uehling, sponsor of the bill, said, in reference to DNR's proposed amendment, that the House would prefer a land-rush approach rather than restricting lotteries.

Senator Vic Fischer moved adoption of DNR's proposed amendment. The motion passed without objection.

Senator Mulcahy moved the amended Resources Committee Substitute be reported out of committee with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

SB 219

Jim Palmer, Resources Committee aide, explained the proposed committee substitute. The committee discussed the provisions of the measure.

Phil Holdsworth, Alaska Miners Association, hoped that the intent of the language allowing flexibility of time limits (page 2, line

6, draft committee substitute) would mean that processing time could be shortened as well as lengthened. Senator Fahrenkamp said that was the intent.

Senator Mulcahy moved that the proposed committee substitute be adopted and reported out as a Resources Committee Substitute with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

I. REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: HCR 27
Title: Information on trapping
Sponsor: Hurlbert
Requestor: _____

II. FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: DNR
Program Category Affected: DRD
BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected: Land use planning

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC						
TOTAL OPERATING		-0-	-0-	-0-		
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Source)						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

III. SOURCE OF FUNDS TO OFFSET FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL:

IV. ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page for any Analysis

Prepared By: Sharon Barton
Division: Commissioner's Office

Phone: 465-2400
Date: 4-12-83

Approved by Commissioner: Thomas Hurlbert
Department: NATURAL RESOURCES

Date: 4/14/83

Distribution:

- Original to Legislative Finance
- Copy to Office of Management and Budget (for Legislature introduced bills)
- Copy to Department (for Governor introduced bills)
- Copy to Sponsor

BACKGROUND FOR HCR 27

FROM REPRESENTATIVE VERN HURLBERT'S OFFICE

TRAPPING

HCR 27 IS DESIGNED TO CORRECT A CONDITION THAT EXISTS IN STATE LAND DISPOSAL POLICY, THE NEED TO CONSIDER TRAPPING AS A VALUABLE AND VIABLE USE OF THE LAND, AS IMPORTANT AS AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT, WHICH INCREASES WILDLIFE POPULATIONS, AND MORE IMPORTANT THAN DISPOSAL AS HOME SITES, DEVELOPMENT AREAS OR MANY OF THE MINERAL LEASING ACTIVITIES. SO MANY OF THESE THINGS ARE TRANSITORY IN NATURE WHEREAS TRAPPING IS COMPATIBLE WITH NATURE AND CAN BE USED FOR GENERATION AFTER GENERATION.

ALASKA'S HISTORY IS RICH IN TRAPPING LORE AND IS ONE OF THE REASONS THIS LAND WAS OPENED TO EXPLOITATION BY EUROPEAN BASED PEOPLES. NOW THE STATE, IN ITS HASTE TO GIVE AWAY ITS LAND, IS NOT ADEQUATELY CONSIDERING THIS ACTIVITY BEFORE THE DISPOSALS ARE ANNOUNCED. MOST PEOPLE INVOLVED IN TRAPPING IN ALASKA DEPEND ON THE INCOME TO HELP KEEP THEM OFF OF THE PUBLIC AGENCY SUPPORT ROLES.

THE DISREGARD FOR THEIR RIGHTS TO CONTINUE THIS ACTIVITY HAS GOT TO STOP. THIS RESOLUTION IS DESIGNED TO HELP CORRECT THIS OVERSIGHT.

AS MOST TRAPPERS KNOW, IN ANY GIVEN AREA THERE IS USUALLY ONE AREA THAT ACTS AS THE CORE BREEDING AREA FOR THE FUR BEARERS AND SOME OF THE LARGER ANIMAL POPULATIONS. ALLOWING SETTLERS TO MOVE INTO THESE AREAS IS A WAY TO INSURE DESTRUCTION OF THE TRAPPING IN THAT AREA. A CABIN ON

staff note: wording has been altered in the proposed Committee Substitute to reflect the multiple use concept.

A HOME SITE DOES NOT SEEM TO TAKE UP MUCH PHYSICAL SPACE, BUT IT DOES CREATE A LARGE AREA THAT IS CUT OFF FROM USE BY THE WILDLIFE POPULATION. THE MORE MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT, CHAINSAWS, SNOMOBILES, GENERATORS, ETC., THE HOMESTEADER USES THE LARGER THE AREA THE WILDLIFE QUILTS USING. ANOTHER FACTOR IS THAT ONCE THE PERSON IS THERE THEY WILL THEN CLAIM ALL OF THE TRAPPING THEY CAN REACH, REGARDLESS OF THE PEOPLE THAT USED THAT AREA AND THE LENGTH OF TIME THEY MAY HAVE USED IT.

THE ONLY REASONABLE SOLUTION IS TO CONSIDER TRAPPING PRIOR TO MAKING LAND DISPOSALS AND ELIMINATE THE AREAS THAT ARE CRITICAL TO THIS ACTIVITY.

WORKING WITH REGIONAL NONPROFITS TO COLLECT DATA ON TRAPPING AREAS IS ONE WAY OF ENSURING PEOPLES INPUT INTO THE SYSTEM. TO REALLY HAVE ALL OF THE INFORMATION NEEDED EACH VILLAGE, TOWN, OR CITY CLOSE TO A DISPOSAL AREA SHOULD BE CONTACTED AND ASK FOR SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON POTENTIAL AREAS. IF SUGGESTED AREAS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE THEN ALTERNATE AREAS SHOULD BE SUGGESTED BY THE PEOPLE LIVING IN THE AREA.

THE STATE, AS MANAGER OF THE STATES WILDLIFE RESOURCES, IS REQUIRED TO INSURE VIABLE STOCKS FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE USERS, BY FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES AS SET OUT IN THIS RESOLUTION IT WILL ASSIST THE STATE IN THEIR JOB.



ALASKA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 60418
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99706

March 8, 1983

The Honorable Vernon L. Hurlbert
State Capitol
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Hurlbert:

The Alaska Trappers Association feels it is time for our state to initiate an effective, sound, ongoing statewide furbearer management program. We earnestly seek your support for this vital project.

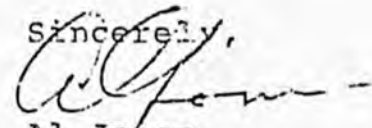
Alaska's history confirms that through the years fur harvest has contributed significantly, not only to our heritage and self sufficiency, but also to our economy. With a comprehensive ongoing fur management program trapping will continue to contribute to industry diversification.

Alaska is the number one producer of lynx, marten, wolf and wolverine pelts nationwide. On pelt value alone, the fur industry contributes 5 to 10 million dollars into our state annually. Spin off markets relating to trapping supplies, food, lodging, air transportation, dog team supplies, and snow machine distributors, to our knowledge have not been tabulated.

We do not suggest that game or non-game programs be curtailed to support fur bearer management. Fur bearer management should be funded as a separate entity within the game division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Neither do we suggest that you simply appropriate general funds to cover this beneficial project. Trappers are willing to help pay for the program through increased license fees and we support legislation to that end. Although we would prefer this program be implemented in its entirety within one year, we have structured the program, so that if necessary, it can be initiated in stages extended over a two year period.

We have enclosed a brief synopsis of our proposed program and would appreciate hearing your views on this project. If you feel it is necessary or beneficial to hold hearings on this matter or meet with representative from the Trappers Association, we will be available at your convenience. Thank you for your time and concern.

Sincerely,



Al Jones
President

A7:et
Enclosure

Alaska State Legislature

BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Chairman
ROBERT H. ZIEGLER, SR., Vice Chairman
DICK ELIASON
PAUL FISCHER
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Senate

Committee on Resources

TO: Senate Resources Committee Members
FROM: Senate Resources Committee Staff
RE: Hearing on HCR 27, Trapping
DATE: June 2, 1983

HCR 27 is designed to ensure that trapping is recognized as an important land use, and is considered in making land use and land disposal decisions. The resolution requests DNR, ADF&G, and other state agencies involved in land use planning to consult with and collect trapping data from user organizations and to consider trapping as an important beneficial use of the land.

The proposed Committee Substitute is supported by the Alaska Trappers' Association, the Tanana Chiefs Conference, and the bill's sponsor. The C.S. does not alter the intent of the original legislation, but better reflects the multiple use concept by removing reference to trapping as a "highest beneficial use" of land.

INITIAL ANALYSIS

HCR 27 "Requesting the State to Collect and Use Information on Trapping for Land Use Planning and Land Disposal"

The whereas portion of the resolution states that while trapping has traditionally been a major source of income for some Alaskans, the State in its land planning and disposal policies often does not take trapping into account, yet the information is available through several organizations.

The resolves ask that State agencies involved in land use planning consult with trapping and other organizations and gather information on trapping; and that the State consider trapping to be one of the highest beneficial uses of the land.

Background for HCR 27

From Rep. Vern Hurlbert's office

HCR 27 is designed to correct a condition that exist in current state land disposal policy, the need to consider trapping as a valuable and vivable use of the land, more important than the disposal as home sites, ag land, development areas or many of the mineral leasing activities. So many of these things are transitory in nature whereas trapping is compatible with nature and can be used for generation after generation.

Alaska's history is rich in trapping lore and is one of the reason's this land was opened to exploitation by European based peoples. Now the state, in its haste to give away its land, is not adequately considering this activity before the disposals are announced. Most people involved in trapping in Alaska depend on the income to help keep them off of the public agency support roles.

The disregard for their rights to continue this activity has got to stop. This resolution is designed to help correct this oversight.

As most trappers know, in any given area there is usually one area that acts as the core breeding area for the fur bearers and some of the larger animal populations. Allowing settlers to move into these areas is a way to insure destruction of the trapping in that area. A cabin on a home site does not seem to take up much physical space, but it does

create a large area that is cut off from use by the wildlife population. The more mechanical equipment, chainsaws, sno-mobiles, generators, ect. the homesteader uses the larger the area the wildlife quits using. Another factor is that once the person is there they will then claim all of the trapping they can reach, regardless of the people that used that area and the length of time they may have used it.

The only reasonable solution is to consider trapping prior to making land disposals and eliminate the areas that are critical to this activity.

Working with regional non-profits to collect data on trapping areas is one way of insuring peoples input into the system. To really have all of the information needed each village, town, or city close to a disposal area should be contacted and ask for specific comments on potential areas. If suggested areas are not acceptable then alternate areas should be suggested by the people living in the area.

The state, as manager of the state wildlife resources, is required to insure vivable stocks for current and future users. By following the guidelines as set out in this resolution it will assist the state in their job.

HCR 27

MY NAME IS JIM FARMER, AIDE TO REPRESENTATIVE HURLBERT,
THE SPONSOR.

OUR POSITION REMAINS THE SAME AND THE CURRENT COMMITTEE
SUBSTITUTE WILL NOT DESTROY THE INTENT OF THE RESOLUTION.
THE SPONSOR CAN SUPPORT IT.

IN YOUR PACKET IS A LETTER FROM THE ALASKA TRAPPERS
ASSOCIATION. SOME OF THE LINES ARE HIGHLIGHTED. THE POINTS
MADE IN THESE HIGHLIGHTED PARAGRAPHS ARE IMPORTANT. THEY
SHOW SOME OF THE BACKGROUND OF WHY ITS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT
TO THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA.

ADDITIONALLY THE LARGE TYPED PAPERS MARKED "BACKGROUND
ON HCR 27" PROVIDES THE BALANCE OF OUR JUSTIFICATION. IT IS
EASIER TO PROVIDE WRITTEN BACKUP RATHER THAN LONG PERSONAL
TESTIMONY.

WE STRONGLY URGE PASSAGE OF THIS LEGISLATION TO HELP
INCREASE LAND DISPOSALS. BY CONSIDERING TRAPPING IN THE
FIRST ROUND OF EVALUATIONS THE LOCAL RESISTANCE CAN BE
LESSENERED, WHICH WILL ALLOW FOR LESS TIME LCST IN PLANNING
LAND DISPOSALS WHICH NEVER COME OFF BECAUSE OF LOCAL RESISTANCE.

THANK YOU.

RESOLUTION
Trapline Documentation & Protection

- WHEREAS, Trappers of Alaska have developed and established use of traplines throughout Alaska;
- WHEREAS, Trappers of Alaska depend upon the continual productivity of their traplines and trapping areas to provide an important element of their overall economic activity;
- WHEREAS, Trapping areas and traplines are threatened everywhere by intrusions such as State and Federal land disposals and surface corridor development,
- WHEREAS, Such intrusions cause competing uses of land supporting fur trapping and intrusions upon existing traplines;

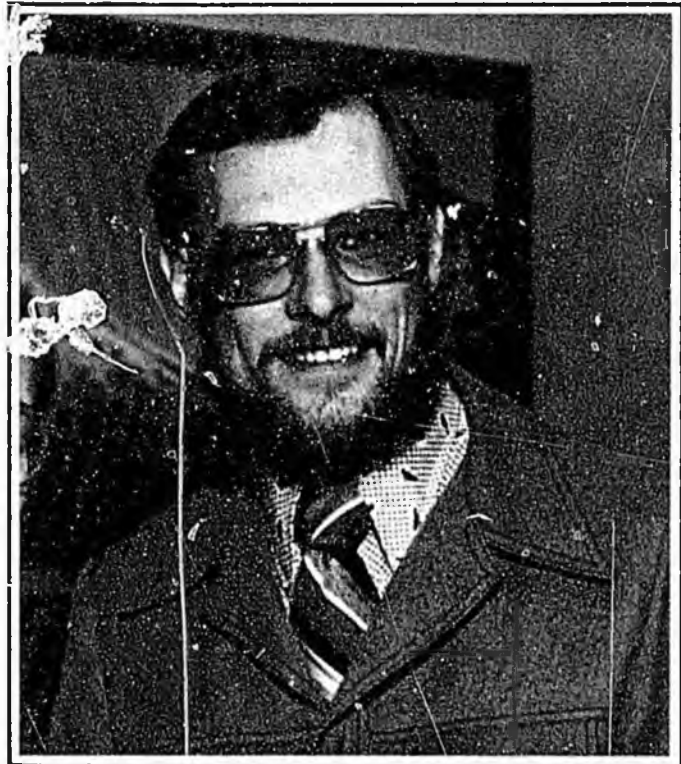
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED; The McGrath Subregional Advisory Board of the Tanana Chiefs Conference asks that the State of Alaska document, recognize and protect the uses of traplines by Alaska Trappers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the McGrath Subregional Advisory Board of the Tanana Chiefs Conference asks that appropriate actions be taken by the Alaska State Legislature to assure that documentation, recognition, and protection for traplines and trappers be accorded to trappers who traditionally use a trapline.

December 1982

FANNING '83 TRAPPER of YEAR

THE 1983 TRAPPER OF THE YEAR AWARD was presented to Ken Fanning, of Fairbanks, Alaska. Ken has been active in the Alaska Trappers Association since its inception in 1973, and was a founding father of the organization. Since then, he has served as a Board member several times. An ex-State Legislator, he was actively involved with the D-2 conflict, and often visited Washington, D.C. at his own expense to fight for the rights of his fellow-Alaskans. Today, he remains very active doing liason work between Fairbanks and Juneau, dealing with the new ATA Furbearer Research Proposal and other resource issues. A registered guide and outfitter, he operates a fishing lodge near Yakutat, Alaska. Ken makes his home in the Fairbanks area, and during the trapping season runs a line on the nearby Minto Flats. Alaska is a far better place for outdoorsmen as a result of Ken Fanning's diligence and hard work. We salute him!



BUCKLE WINNER NAMED

WINNER OF THE GREAT ALASKA TRAPPER BELT BUCKLE CONTEST IS JEFF AUSTIN, OF EAGLE ALASKA. - After much study and deliberation, the Alaska Trappers Association Board Of Directors selected Jeff's sketch as being most representative of what it felt the Buckle should portray. Jeff recieves a lifetime membership in ATA, and, of course, the belt buckle bearing serial #1. On its back, his name will be inscribed as its designer along with a thumbnail sketch of ATA history. All buckles in the series will carry these details. ATA will order 500 of the buckles numbered in sequence. They will be constructed either of brass or pewter, and will retail for approximately \$20 postpaid. It will be about three months until we have the buckles in hand, so be patient till then. The October issue of The Trapper will carry details on how you can order yours. In addition, they will be on sale directly from ATA as soon as we have them and know the exact price. To those members who submitted skecthes and did not win, we wish to thank you for your interest and time. Depending upon demand, there will probably be other buckle contests in other years.

FURBEARER LEGISLATION - The following is a copy of House Concurrent Resolution Number 27 introduced by the honorable Vern Hurlbert, State Representative for House District 24. The Alaska Trappers Association supports this resolution as written, and asks furbearer users statewide to write their representatives urging them to to pass this very important legislation.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Alaska Trappers Association

1 IN THE HOUSE BY HURLBERT

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting the state to collect and use
6 information on trapping for land use
7 planning, and land disposal.

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

9 WHEREAS a major source of income for a significant number of Alaskans
10 has historically and traditionally been trapping fur animals; and

11 WHEREAS the land use planning and land disposal policies of the state
12 often do not adequately take trapping into consideration; and

13 WHEREAS the Alaska Trappers Association, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and
14 other organizations have considerable information on trapping areas and
15 animals within the state;

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Department of
17 Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Game and other state agencies
18 that are involved in land use planning and land disposal are encouraged and
19 requested to consult with and collect trapping data from the Alaska
20 Trapping Association, Tanana Chiefs Conference, and other organizations or
21 individuals that may have information; and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED that the state consider the trapping of fur animals
23 as one of the highest beneficial uses of the land.