

S J R

66

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

BILL NUMBER SJR 66

SPONSOR Kerttula

BILL TITLE Issuance of a US stamp/Vitus Bering

DATE REFERRED 2.1.90

HEARING SCHEDULED 2.12.90

FISCAL NOTE PREPARED by S.St. Affairs

SPONSOR CONTACTED

INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACTED

OTHER

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT
FIRST COMMITTEE OF REFERRAL

DATE: 2/1/90

FURTHER:

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
(in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
INTO OFFICE: _____

State Affairs

Committee considered

SJR 66

Requesting the issuance of a United States commemorative postage stamp to mark the 250th anniversary of Vitus Bering's voyage of discovery and the opening of Alaska to European contact.

and recommended:

- replace with _____ CS _____ same title
- attached amendment(s) new title
- _____ letter of intent adopted
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- further referral to _____

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department(s)/Date:

Department(s)/Date:

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____

appropriation-no fiscal note

Governor's bill w/fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

[Handwritten signatures]

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Handwritten signature]

Chair: Signature and Recommendation

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: US postage stamp marking
anniversary of Vitus Bering voyage
 Sponsor: Kerttula
 Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: _____
 BRU: _____
 Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY	-					

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Senate State Affairs
 Division: _____

Phone: 465-4522
 Date: 2/12/90

Approved by Commissioner: Senator Pat Pourchot
 Agency: _____

Date: 2/12/90

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

STUART C. HALL
ATTORNEY AT LAW

JAN 29 1990

308 - G STREET, SUITE 308 310
POST OFFICE BOX 100300
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-0300

(907) 276-6250

Thursday, 25 January 1990

Honorable Jalmar M. Kerttula
Member of the Senate
Alaska Legislature
Post Office Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Jay:

Faced with such momentous issues as subsistence, the perennial problem of fitting essential state services to available revenues in the budget "struggle," etc., I am reluctant to impose on your and your staff's time with a request for a favor. However, you have invariably supported the efforts of the state's stamp collectors, and particularly those of the Anchorage Philatelic Society, to keep Alaska at the forefront of the public's attention.

Would you, perhaps in concert with your colleague, Senator Fred Zharoff of Kodiak, introduce a Joint Resolution of the Alaska Legislature requesting the issuance of commemorative U.S. postage stamp marking the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's 1741 Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific in which Alaska was discovered and, for the first time, opened to Western contact? The anniversary date is 1991. As the accompanying material from the Anchorage Museum of History and Art indicates, a major celebration is being planned in the Pacific Northwest.

Such a stamp, particularly if jointly and simultaneously issued with Denmark and the U.S.S.R., would afford Alaska a unique opportunity to showcase its unique Russian heritage. It would be my hope that the Alaska congressional delegation might also intercede with The White House and the State Department to issue an invitation to President and Mrs. Gorbachev to visit Alaska at the time of the stamp issue to see for themselves the significant Russian contribution to Alaska and the considerable effort that has been made, statewide, to preserve that heritage and culture. Indeed, with the "melting" of the "Ice Curtain," the advent of "Glasnost," 1991 seems an ideal time to proffer such an invitation to the Gorbachevs.

Honorable Jalmar M. Kerttula
Member of the Senate
Alaska Legislature
Thursday, 25 January 1990
Page Two

At its meeting last night, Wednesday, 24 January, the Anchorage Philatelic Society adopted a Resolution endorsing the commemorative stamp issue observing the Vitus Bering Voyage of Discovery 250th Anniversary. A copy of that Resolution is enclosed for reference purposes.

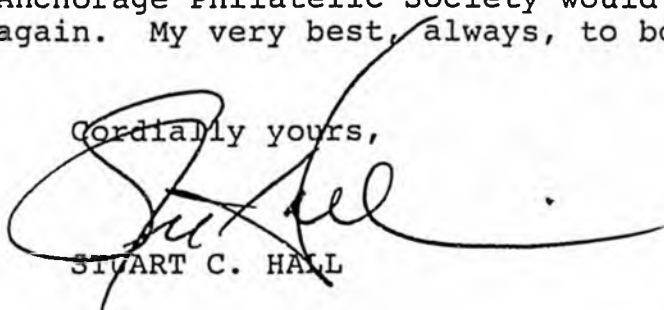
To assist you and your staff, recognizing that the deadline for the introduction of personal bills/resolutions is close at hand, I have prepared a Draft Joint Resolution that contains the essentials.

I'm aware that there has always been some doubt that these Joint Resolutions had much impact, or even were read, in our Nation's capital. However, at least as to the issuance of postage stamps they have had the desired effect: in 1972, a Joint Resolution of the Legislature persuaded the U.S. Postal Service to hold First Day of Issue ceremonies for the Mt. McKinley commemorative stamp in Denali National Park; and, again, in 1978, a Joint Resolution requesting the issuance of the Captain Cook commemorative stamp in Alaska yielded a simultaneous issue of the stamps in Honolulu and Anchorage -- indeed, the U.S. Postal Service management had overlooked Cook's sojourn into Alaska waters in search of the Northwest Passage.

Please consider this letter an offer to furnish any back-up material you or your staff may require, or to furnish "expert" testimony from knowledgeable collectors, members of the Anchorage Philatelic Society, or the Anchorage Museum of History & Art staff who are arranging the forthcoming exhibit in Tacoma and Anchorage.

Again, my thanks to you for your past support. My colleagues, and fellow members of the Anchorage Philatelic Society would be grateful for your help again. My very best, always, to both you and Joyce.

Cordially yours,



STUART C. HALL

Enclosures.

cc: Anchorage Philatelic Society
P.O. Box 2214
Anchorage, AK 99510-2214



Alaska State Legislature

SENATE

Official Business

P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MEMORANDUM

Pat
TO: Senator Pourchot, Chairman
Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Senator Kerttula

SUBJ: SJR 66 -- Russian Stamp *Jay*

I would appreciate your scheduling SJR 66, requesting the issuance of a commemorative stamp to mark the 250th anniversary of Vitus Bering's discovery of Alaska, at your earliest convenience.

This resolution was requested by the Anchorage Philatelic Society. I have attached the back-up I received from Stu Hall, with the Society.

I appreciate your attention to this request.

JK:kh

lsjr66

D R A F T

IN THE SENATE

BY

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Requesting the issuance of a United States Commemorative Postage Stamp Marking the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's Voyage of Discovery and Opening of Alaska to Western Contact.

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

WHEREAS, 1991 marks the 250th Anniversary of explorer Vitus Bering's discovery of Alaska and its opening to Western contact; and

WHEREAS, during 1990 and 1991, two important museums in the Pacific Northwest, the Washington State Historical Society Museum and the Anchorage Museum of History and Art, jointly will stage the first-ever showing of the record of Russian activity in North America, from the Bering Strait to California; and

WHEREAS, this museum exhibit, "Russian America: The Forgotten Frontier," will open during Summer, 1990, in Tacoma, Washington, as one of the features of the Soviet-American Goodwill Games that will be staged in Seattle; and, thereafter, in the Fall, the exhibit will travel to Anchorage where it will be displayed through March, 1991, as part of the Anchorage Museum of History and Art's observance of Vitus Bering's Voyage of Discovery; and

WHEREAS, as the theme for its 39th Alaska Philatelic Exhibition (APEX), to be held in February, 1991, in conjunction with the annual Anchorage Fur Rendezvous, the Anchorage Philatelic Society has chosen: "The Age of Dis-

covery and Exploration: Alaska's Russian Heritage," which will focus attention on the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's important voyage; and

WHEREAS, there has been no philatelic observance of Vitus Bering's contribution to the opening and development of Alaska since Denmark's issuance of three commemorative postage stamps in 1941 marking the 200th Anniversary of Bering's voyage into North Pacific waters for the Russian Czar, and subsequent death; although Bering was Danish by birth, his exploration of the Northern Pacific and Alaska's coastline was undertaken on behalf of the Russian Empire; and

WHEREAS, during the last decade there have been numerous postage stamp tributes to the contributions of emigrants to the United States from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Poland and Ireland; as yet, however, there has been no joint American-Danish or American-Russian commemorative stamp issued for the same purpose; indeed, the last joint United States-U.S.S.R. commemorative postage stamp issue was the Apollo-Soyuz commemorative stamp issued July 17, 1975, to mark the joint effort of these two nations in the exploration of space; and

WHEREAS, therefore, it would be appropriate for a United States Commemorative Postage Stamp to be issued jointly with Denmark and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to recognize the unique contribution of Danish and Russian emigrants to the development of the American nation by observing the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's notable Voyage of Discovery in 1741;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States Postal Service is requested to issue a United States Commemorative Postage Stamp in 1991 to mark the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's discovery of Alaska and its opening to Western contact; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests that this United States Commemorative Postage Stamp be issued jointly and simultaneously with commemorative postage stamps issued by Denmark and the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests that, should this commemorative postage stamp be issued by the United States Postal Service, the First Day of Issue be held at Kodiak, Alaska, near the site of the first Russian settlement in Alaska at Old Harbor.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Anthony M. Frank, Postmaster General of the United States; to the United States Citizens Postage Stamp Advisory Committee; and, to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, United States Senators, and to the Honorable Don Young, United States Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

R E S O L U T I O N

Requesting the issuance of a commemorative United States Postage Stamp marking the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's Voyage of Discovery and Opening of Alaska to Western Contact.

Offered by: Stuart C. Hall (73-11); Sheila R. Erwin (77-32); and, Nicki J. Nielsen (L-27)

WHEREAS, 1991 marks the 250th Anniversary of explorer Vitus Bering's discovery of Alaska and its opening to Western contact; and

WHEREAS, as the theme for its 39th Alaska Philatelic Exhibition (APEX), to be held in February, 1991, in conjunction with the annual Anchorage Fur Rendezvous, the Anchorage Philatelic Society has chosen: The "Age of Discovery and Exploration: Alaska's Russian Heritage," with a focus on the Vitus Bering 250th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, almost simultaneously with the 39th APEX, two important museums in the Pacific Northwest, the Washington State Historical Society Museum and our own Anchorage Museum of History and Art, jointly will stage the first-ever showing of the record of Russian activity in North America, from the Bering Strait to California; and

WHEREAS, this museum exhibit, "Russian America: The Forgotten Frontier," will open during the Summer of 1990, in Tacoma, Washington, as one of the features of the Soviet-American Goodwill Games that will be staged in Seattle; and, thereafter, in the Fall, the exhibit will travel to Anchorage where it will be displayed through March, 1991, as a part of the Anchorage Museum of History and Art's observance of Vitus Bering's Voyage of Discovery; and

WHEREAS, there has been no philatelic observance of Vitus Bering's contribution to the opening and development of Alaska since Denmark's issuance of three commemorative postage stamps in 1941 marking the 200th Anniversary of Bering's voyage into North Pacific waters for the Russian Czar; and

WHEREAS, although Bering was Danish by birth, his exploration of the Northern Pacific and Alaska's coastline was undertaken on behalf of the Russian Empire; and

WHEREAS, during the last decade there have been commemorative postage stamp tributes to the contributions of emigrants to the United States from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Poland and Ireland; as yet, however, there has been no joint American-Danish or American-Russian commemorative stamp issued for the same purpose; indeed, the last joint United States-U.S.S.R. commemorative postage stamp issue was the Apollo-Soyuz commemorative stamp issued July 17, 1975, to mark the joint effort of these nations in the exploration of space; and

WHEREAS, therefore, it would be appropriate for a commemorative United States Postage Stamp to be issued jointly with Denmark and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to recognize the unique contribution of Danish and Russian emigrants to the development of the American nation by observing the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's notable Voyage of Discovery; now, therefore

Vitus Bering Voyage of Discovery
250th Anniversary Commemorative Stamp
Resolution/2

BE IT RESOLVED by the Anchorage Philatelic Society at its meeting, Wednesday, January 24, 1990, that the Society requests the United States Postal Service to issue a United States Commemorative Postage Stamp in 1991 to mark the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's discovery of Alaska and its opening to Western contact; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Society requests that this United States Commemorative Postage Stamp be issued jointly and simultaneously with commemorative postage stamps issued by Denmark and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Society requests that, should this commemorative postage stamp be issued by the United States Postal Service, the First Day of Issue be held at Kodiak, Alaska, near the site of the first Russian settlement in Alaska at Old Harbor; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Society requests the Alaska Legislature, at its current session, to consider and to adopt a Joint Resolution endorsing the issuance of the commemorative United States postage stamp honoring the 250th Anniversary of Vitus Bering's Voyage of Discovery; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that Copies of this Resolution be forwarded to interested members of the Alaska Legislature to obtain their support for a Joint Resolution of the Alaska Legislature addressing this subject; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that Copies of this Resolution be send to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, United States Senator, and to the Honorable Don Young, United States Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in the Congress of the United States; to the Honorable Anthony M. Frank, Postmaster General of the United States; to the United States Citizens Postage Stamp Advisory Committee; and, to Robert J. Opinsky, Postmaster/Anchorage Division Manager, United States Postal Service.

Resolution read, amended and adopted unanimously this 24th day of January, 1990.

/s/ Eric Knapp

Eric Knapp, President

ATTEST:

/s/ Rachel Michaelson

Rachel Michaelson, Recording Secretary

No teleconference

sjr66.txt

SJR 66, requesting the issuance of a U.S. commemorative postage stamp to mark the 250th anniversary of Vitus Berings Voyage of discovery and the opening of Alaska to European contact:

To Testify:

Senator Kerttula