

**HJR**

**24**

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Copies of minutes listed below were originally included in this file. The minutes are available on the legislative computer database. In order to save space copies of minutes have not been left in the files.

Mary Pagenkopf

*Senate Rules Committee 3/12/97 10:50 am*

# Alaska State Legislature

## Committees:

Transportation, Chairman

Resources

Economic Development

Rules



During Session:  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1152  
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352 Front Street  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
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Representative William K. Williams

## Sponsor Statement

### House Joint Resolution 24

House Joint Resolution 24 was introduced in response to the Clinton Administration's proposal to harvest trees from the Tongass National Forest for the purpose of decorating the nation's capital during the 1998 Christmas season.

Under normal circumstances this proposal would be met with open arms and be considered an honor by the people who live and work in the Forest. However, these are not normal circumstances. Federal policy decisions, the inability of the Forest Service to get timber volume out, and litigation has led to mill closures, widespread job loss and economic depression, not to mention the associated negative socio-economic impacts.

I consider the proposal a direct insult to the people of Southeast Alaska. These are people who are prohibited from making an honest living in the woods, yet are asked to harvest Christmas trees, send them back east **AND** fund the project. At a time when we need every single dollar we have to try and rebuild our economy it is incredible that the Federal Government would ask us to fund such a project.

We need to send a strong message to Washington that says we do not agree with their actions regarding the Tongass National Forest. The human cost of 'saving the Tongass' has been too high. We do not agree with their taking of trees for decorative purposes while the jobless citizens of Southeast Alaska try to scrape enough money together to save their homes and dreams. I urge you to support House Joint Resolution 24.

STATE OF ALASKA  
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1  
Bill Version: CSHJR 24 (RES)  
(H) Publish Date: 3/7/97

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Relating to challenging the environmental and economic integrity of Alaska timber as Christmas...  
Sponsor: Representative Williams  
Requestor: House Resources

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency  
BRU: All  
Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
<b>OPERATING</b>						
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CAPITAL</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>REVENUE FUND SOURCE</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director *Karla Schofield* Phone: 465-3852  
Division: Administrative Services Date: 3/6/97  
Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director *Pamela A. Varni*  
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency Date: 3/6/97

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