

HJR

15

<TARGET><BILL>HJR 15</BILL><SUBJECT>HJR
15</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA27</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/30/11

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 3-5-11

State Affairs Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15(EDT)

HJR 15-SUPPORT ARCTIC CAUCUS

Relating to collaboration with the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and its Arctic Caucus to address common issues.

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS _____ (HJR 15) Same Title Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. _____
- adopt previous SCS _____ (SCS/CS- Forthcoming) Same Title Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. _____
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LEG
CED	LAW
COR	LWF
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
LEG			X	1

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Giesel	X			
	PATKWAN	X			
	Koolau	X			
CHAIR:	Wielechowski	X			

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE
TO: CSHJR 15(EDT)

BY REPRESENTATIVE HERRON

- 1 Page 3, line 14:
- 2 Delete "Honorable"
- 3 Insert "Right Honourable"

Representative Bob Herron

Rep.Bob.Herron@legis.state.ak.us

State Capitol • Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4942 • Fax: (907) 465-4589



House District 38
Kuskokwim & Johnson Rivers
Kuskokwim Bay & Nelson Island

Akiachak

Akiak

Aimautluak

Bethel

Chefornak

Ek

Goodnews Bay

Kasigluk

Kipnuk

Kongiganak

Kwethluk

Kwigillingok

Lower Kalskag

Mekoryuk

Mertarvik

Napakiak

Napaskiak

Newtok

Nightmute

Nunapitchuk

Oscarville

Platinum

Quinhagak

Toksook Bay


Tuluksak

Tununak

Tuntutuliak

Upper Kalskag

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 28, 2011
To: Senator Bill Wielechowski, State Affairs Chair
From: Rep. Bob Herron 
RE: HJR 15 (EDT), Supporting Arctic Caucus

I respectfully request that **HJR 15 (EDT)**, "Relating to collaboration with the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and its Arctic Caucus to address common issues" **be scheduled for a hearing in the Senate State Affairs Committee.**

This resolution encourages the Alaska Legislature to collaborate with the legislative assemblies of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through PNWER and its Arctic Caucus to facilitate communication and cooperation among the Arctic Caucus member jurisdictions and, as a result, to more effectively address common problems.

Notably, the Arctic Caucus will also strive to promote a synchronized message detailing the common needs of the Arctic Caucus member regions to their respective federal governments and emphasizing that coordinated United States and Canadian federal policies are vital for the well-being of the region's citizens.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact myself or my staff Rob Earl at 465.4942.

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15(EDT)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRADE, AND TOURISM

Offered: 3/18/11

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HERRON, Kerttula, Peggy Wilson, Gardner

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to collaboration with the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the**
2 **Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and its Arctic Caucus to address common issues.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region was formed in 1991 as a forum
5 for collaborative public and private sector planning among the states of Alaska, Montana,
6 Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, the Canadian provinces and territories of the Northwest
7 Territories, Yukon, British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan, and the national capitals of
8 Washington, D.C., and Ottawa, Canada; and

9 **WHEREAS** the Arctic Caucus of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region was
10 formed in November 2009 as an informal group of legislators, government officials, business
11 leaders, and leaders of nonprofit organizations committed to the responsible development of
12 North America's Arctic regions; and

13 **WHEREAS** the purpose of the Arctic Caucus is to provide a forum within the Pacific
14 NorthWest Economic Region for the Arctic jurisdictions of Alaska, the Yukon, and the
15 Northwest Territories to share information, discuss issues of mutual concern, and identify
16 areas for collaboration, including working with other jurisdictions and providing Arctic-

1 related input to the working groups of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region; and

2 **WHEREAS**, on December 1 - 3, 2010, the Arctic Caucus met in Barrow, Alaska, to
3 discuss the federal Arctic policies of the United States and Canada, the Arctic transportation
4 and communication infrastructure needs of the Arctic Caucus member regions, and the
5 priorities and action of the Arctic Caucus; and

6 **WHEREAS** the Alaska Northern Waters Task Force attended the 2010 meeting of the
7 Arctic Caucus in Barrow, and future cooperative action between the Alaska Northern Waters
8 Task Force and the Arctic Caucus was outlined; and

9 **WHEREAS** the 21st Annual Summit of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region will
10 be held July 19 - 22, 2011, in Portland, Oregon, and will provide a forum for continued Arctic
11 Caucus collaboration; and

12 **WHEREAS** Alaska, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories, the three northern
13 regions of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region, have problems in common, including
14 limited educational opportunities; a minimal distance-delivery education infrastructure; a need
15 for expanded workforce development programs; a need for better cold climate housing; a high
16 rate of suicide; a high rate of domestic violence; a high rate of substance abuse; an economic
17 reliance on resource-extraction industries and a corresponding need for economic
18 diversification; remote and inaccessible communities that face high costs for fuel and
19 commodities; and an urgent need for investment in transportation and communication
20 infrastructure; and

21 **WHEREAS** there is much to be gained by Alaska, the Yukon, and the Northwest
22 Territories more closely sharing strategies to solve common problems and working together to
23 solve those problems; and

24 **WHEREAS** some of the issues that the Arctic Caucus might address include
25 increasing cooperation on scientific research and vessel tracking; exploring strategies to
26 address and mitigate tension between local users and industry; identifying economic
27 development opportunities through tourism, infrastructure development, and regional
28 partnerships; supporting Arctic marine safety through appropriate jurisdictional licensing of
29 marine pilots; exploring increased cooperation in emergency and disaster preparedness; and
30 increasing coordination of search and rescue efforts;

31 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature will collaborate with the

1 legislative assemblies of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the Pacific
 2 NorthWest Economic Region and its Arctic Caucus to facilitate communication and
 3 cooperation among the Arctic Caucus member regions and, as a result, to address more
 4 effectively problems common to those regions; and be it

5 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature will work with the
 6 legislative assemblies of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the Pacific
 7 NorthWest Economic Region and the Arctic Caucus to promote a synchronized message
 8 detailing the common needs of the Arctic Caucus member regions to their respective federal
 9 governments and emphasizing that coordinated United States and Canadian federal policies
 10 are vital to the welfare of Alaska, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature invites the governments of
 12 the Yukon and the Northwest Territories to join Alaska in an enduring alliance to pursue the
 13 common goals of their regions.

14 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the ^{right honourable} Honorable Stephen Harper, Prime
 15 Minister of Canada; the Honorable John Morris Duncan, Canadian Minister of Indian Affairs
 16 and Northern Development; the Honorable Jim Kenyon, Member of the Legislative Assembly
 17 of the Yukon; the Honorable Bob McLeod, Member of the Legislative Assembly of the
 18 Northwest Territories; the Honorable Denis Stevens, Consul General of the Consulate General
 19 of Canada in Seattle, Washington; the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United
 20 States; the Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, United States Secretary of State; the
 21 Honorable Robert M. Gates, United States Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Ken Salazar,
 22 United States Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Sean Parnell, Governor of Alaska; the
 23 Honorable Mead Treadwell, Lieutenant Governor of Alaska; and the Honorable Lisa
 24 Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
 25 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

Representative Bob Herron

Rep. Bob. Herron@legis.state.ak.us

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House District 38
Kuskokwim & Johnson Rivers
Kuskokwim Bay & Nelson Island

Sponsor Statement CS HJR 15 (EDT)

Akiachak
Akiak
Atmautluak
Bethel
Chefornek
Eek
Goodnews Bay
Kasigluk
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Kwethluk
Kwigillingok
Lower Kalskag
Mekoryuk
Mertarvik
Napakiak
Napaskiak
Newtok
Nightmute
Nunapitchuk
Oscarville
Platinum
Quinhagak
Toksook Bay
Tuluksak
Tununak
Tuntutuliak
Upper Kalskag

"Relating to collaboration with the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region and its Arctic Caucus to address common issues."

The Arctic Caucus was formed in November 2009 as an informal group of legislators, government officials, business leaders, and leaders of nonprofit organizations committed to the responsible development of North America's Arctic regions, including Alaska, Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. The Arctic Caucus is now a working group within the Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER), a statutory public-private partnership which promotes economic development between three Canadian provinces, two territories and five American states, including Alaska. Alaska was a founding member of PNWER in 1991. The Arctic Caucus is designed to facilitate communication and cooperation among the Arctic Caucus member jurisdictions.

The Arctic Caucus held its first Leadership Forum in Barrow, AK Dec. 1-3, 2010. This meeting was attended by six Alaska legislators, key officials from the US and Canada, and leadership from Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Issues on which the Arctic Caucus has agreed to focus on include:

- Increasing cooperation on scientific research and vessel tracking
- Exploring strategies to reduce tension between local users and industry
- Identifying bi-national economic development opportunities through tourism
- Regional infrastructure and partnership development
- Exploring increased cooperation in emergency and disaster preparedness, and
- Increasing coordination of search and rescue efforts.

This resolution encourages the Alaska Legislature to collaborate with the legislative assemblies of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through PNWER and its Arctic Caucus to facilitate communication and cooperation among the Arctic Caucus member jurisdictions and, as a result, to more effectively address common problems.

Notably, the Arctic Caucus will also strive to promote a synchronized message detailing the common needs of the Arctic Caucus member regions to their respective federal governments and emphasizing that coordinated United States and Canadian federal policies are vital for the well-being of the region's citizens.

This resolution's final resolve calls on "the governments of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories to join Alaska in an enduring alliance to pursue the common goals of their regions." We feel the time has come for such an alliance and are confident it will be embraced by our closest Canadian neighbors. We further hope and expect that the Alaska Legislature will welcome this spirit of northern camaraderie and support this resolution as a vehicle toward increased cooperation in the Arctic.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number _____
 Bill Version HJR 15
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) HJR15-LEG-COU-3-17-2011 Dept. Affected Legislature
 Title "Relating to Collaboration with the Yukon and the Northwest Territories through the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region..." Appropriation Legislative Council
 Allocation Session Expenses
 Sponsor Representative Herron
 Requester House Special Committee on Economic Development, Trade...] OMB Component Number 782

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information					
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
OPERATING EXPENDITURES							
Personal Services							
Travel							
Contractual							
Supplies							
Equipment							
Grants & Claims							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
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CHANGE IN REVENUES							
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2011) cost _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version

Initial Version

Prepared by Shane Miller, Finance Manager
 Division Legislative Affairs Agency
 Approved by Pamela Varni, Executive Director
Legislative Affairs Agency

Phone 465-6626
 Date/Time 3/17/11 7:53 AM
 Date 3/17/2011

Analysis

This fiscal note has zero impact on the Legislative Affairs Agency.

Representative Bob Herron

Rep.Bob.Herron@legis.state.ak.us

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Explanation of Changes for HJR 15, Support Arctic Caucus

For Senate State Affairs Committee

Changes from the original HJR 15 in the House Economic Development, Trade & Tourism Committee

P.2, line 14, after "including" -- inserted

"limited educational opportunities; a minimal distance-delivery education infrastructure; a need for expanded workforce development programs;"

P. 2, line 28, after "partnerships" – inserted:

"supporting Arctic marine safety through appropriate jurisdictional licensing of marine pilots"



Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell
STATE OF ALASKA

February 21, 2011

The Honorable Representative Herron
Chairman House Special Committee on Economic Development,
Trade & Tourism
State Capitol Room 411
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Representative Herron,

I appreciate the opportunity to be able to provide comment on HJR 15. For the record, I am Mead Treadwell, Lieutenant Governor, State of Alaska.

First, I would like to underscore the premise of this resolution: The Arctic is strategic to Alaska, the nation and the world. We feed, fuel, and defend America from the Arctic. Our Arctic location makes us a global player in aviation, and increasingly in shipping. Our Arctic scenery and culture inspires the world, and we have a major share of Arctic tourism. Arctic research conducted by Alaskans is central to global discussions on energy, climate change, shipping, health and biodiversity.

The Arctic Caucus of PNWER, and PNWER itself, is a way for us to get the word out about these important things we do, and want to do. It is a way to promote cooperation we need to develop our resources safely, protect our environment, establish safe, secure, reliable shipping, solve the Alaska-Canada border disputes, promote common investment in infrastructure, ranging from aids to navigation, oil spill response, search and rescue capability, energy development, ports and icebreakers.

As a joint resolution is an expression of the sense of the house and senate rather than of the administration, we will not be taking a position on whether or not the resolution should pass. Instead, we would like to express our appreciation for the Legislature's willingness to consider these important issues and pledge our willingness to work together on them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mead Treadwell".

Mead Treadwell
Lieutenant Governor



Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

**PNWER's Arctic Caucus
February 22, 2011**



PNWER Profile

- PNWER – formed by statute in 1991
- PNWER is a Public/Private Partnership
- Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Saskatchewan, Washington, Yukon & Northwest Territories

▪ Alaska Delegate Council:

- Governor Sean Parnell
- Sen. Fred Dyson
- Sen. Charlie Huggins
- Sen. Lesil McGuire
- Sen. Tom Wagoner

- Rep. Anna Fairclough
- Rep. Bryce Edgmon
- Rep. Lindsey Holmes
- Rep. Peggy Wilson



Recent Successes

- Facilitation of Enhanced Drivers License
- Legislative Energy Horizon Institute
- 2010 Olympics and Border Symposium
- Arranged visit for AK Legislators to Alberta Oil Sands
- Foundation of the Arctic Caucus
- Support of international rail connection BC-WA

Arctic Caucus

- Founded in 2009 during Presidency of Senator McGuire
- A forum for PNWER Northern Jurisdictions to enhance collaboration amongst themselves and with other members
- Lead by Alaska, Yukon and Northwest Territories
- First Leadership Forum held in Barrow, Dec. 2010

Action Items – (see Arctic Caucus Report for complete list)

- Advocate for cabinet-level (US) participation in the Arctic Council
- Promote a pan-Northern approach to federal governments. (Including Legislative concurrent resolution)



Action Items – (see Arctic Caucus Report for complete list)

- Explore means to support the expansion of the Marine Exchange of Alaska's AIS System in Alaska as well as Northwest Territories (NWT), Yukon and BC. Support current efforts to increase Search and Rescue response capacity and infrastructure on both sides of the border including joint training/exercises
- Promote federal support of the Alaska/Canada highway and Shakwak funding.



Other Identified Issues :

- Gas Pipeline development
- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea
- Transmission/Local Energy Development
- Joint Tourism/Marketing
- Training/Workforce Development
- Support development of youth exchange programs
- Conduct an infrastructure gap analysis and provide a justification for investment in cross-border infrastructure.

Next Steps

- Arctic Caucus will meet at PNWER Summit in Portland Oregon, July 2011
- Second Leadership forum will be held August 18 – 19 in Yellowknife, NWT
- Meetings in Washington, DC and Ottawa to push Action Items to both Federal Governments
- Further development of plan for implementation and support of Arctic Caucus

Contact

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