

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 9

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, AND TO THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. DIMOND, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA:

WHEREAS, a permanent population of nearly 2,000 people reside in that section of Alaska known as Bristol Bay, and adjacent thereto, which population is engaged in the business of fishing for a livelihood; and in addition thereto, a seasonal population of many thousands more come from the States to put up the salmon pack each summer; and

WHEREAS, the fishing industry is of untold value to the above mentioned fishing and transient population of Alaska, and to the United States as an industry; and

WHEREAS, there is a gradual, but a continuous, and increasing encroachment of Japanese fishermen, and fishing vessels upon the waters of said Bristol Bay, and the Bering Sea; and

WHEREAS, said Japanese fishermen, working on a low wage scale, and such Japanese fishing vessels operating beyond the jurisdiction of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, and not bound by, or observing, the rules and regulations of said Bureau, are able to pack and sell their fish products at reduced prices; and

WHEREAS, such encroachment and methods constitute a serious menace to the Alaska fish supply, and to the fishing industry, and the domestic fish market of the United States, and

WHEREAS, said fishing industry is of untold value to Alaska, and to the United States, and should be fostered, protected and encouraged;

NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialist prays that the matter of this encroachment of Japanese fishermen upon the waters of Bristol Bay and the Bering Sea receive the consideration of Congress, so that either congressional action be taken, or an appropriate agreement be made to adjust the matter.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, February 11, 1937.

Passed by the Senate, February 24, 1937.