

WHEREAS, any increases are not justified and would threaten the entire economy and well-being of Alaska;

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialist earnestly requests that the rate structures of the water carriers operating between the United States and Alaska be investigated and that reductions be made when justified and rates be established for this part of the United States that compare favorably with rates for similar services elsewhere.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the Senate, February 16, 1939.

Passed by the House, March 3, 1939.

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### SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 9.

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE HONORABLE A. J. DIMOND, DELEGATE IN CONGRESS FROM ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Fourteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the 75th Congress of the United States passed an Act which was approved on June 25th, 1938, known and cited as the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and popularly known as the Wages and Hours Law; and,

WHEREAS, the said law provides for maximum hours and minimum pay for employees who are engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce; and,

WHEREAS, there is some doubt as to whether the law applies to gold mining in the Territory of Alaska, and the question of its applicability cannot be determined until some action is brought in court in order to get an interpretation of the Act with reference to gold mining in the Territory of Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, placer mining in the Interior of Alaska is the chief industry of the Second and Fourth Divisions; and,

WHEREAS, placer mining is seasonal and the application of the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act to placer mining

operations is not practical for many reasons, including the following:

1. It is not possible to specify the number of days in any one season during which mining operations can be carried on, as the seasons vary in different districts and with different types of operations, and the length of the season is to a large extent governed by weather conditions, which change from year to year, so that placer mining operations, while highly seasonal, are not uniform;

2. That wages paid in placer mining operations in Alaska are much higher than wages paid for other employment, either within or without the Territory, and men employed are mostly skilled laborers who must earn sufficient during the short mining season to support them during the winter months, and if the pay were cut through reduction of working hours, it would work a great hardship on employees;

3. If the Fair Labor Standards Act is enforced in the placer mining industry, it will result in closing entirely many operations and curtailing others, as much of the ground now being worked over considerable areas is marginal ground, where the margin of profit will not justify any increased costs, and the enforcement of the law would have the effect of defeating the very purpose of the law and of curtailing employment;

4. Should the provisions of the law be strictly enforced, the earning capacity of men employed in the placer mining industry will be reduced to a point where they will not have sufficient funds to carry them through the winter months, thereby throwing them upon the government for relief and subsistence;

5. That the placer mining industry is as seasonal in the Territory of Alaska as the fishing industry, which is exempted from the provisions of the law;

6. That if the provisions of the law were strictly enforced, it would result in lower pay for the workers and greatly increased costs, due to additional men required to do the same amount of work which can now be done by the present crews in the operations already being carried on and by a proportionate number of men in new operations during the coming season and the seasons thereafter.

NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialist earnestly requests that the Fair Labor Standards Act be amended so as to exempt from its provisions placer mining operations in Alaska in the same manner as the fishing industry is now exempted.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the Senate, February 21, 1939.

Passed by the House, March 8, 1939.

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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10.

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE  
HONORABLE A. J. DIMOND, DELEGATE IN CONGRESS  
FROM ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Fourteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the Territory of Alaska has for a number of years expended great sums of money in an effort to control the damage to our fishing industry and fur industry by predators; and,

WHEREAS, for a period commencing April 1, 1937, and ending March 31, 1939, Two Hundred Forty-five Thousand (\$245,000.00) Dollars were expended for predatory control and whereas not withstanding this great expenditure of Territorial funds the menace has not been abated; and,

WHEREAS, the Organic Act prohibits the Territorial Legislature from making any rules or regulations governing fish or game; and,

WHEREAS, your petitioner, the Territorial Legislature of Alaska, feels that if it were enabled to regulate fish and game in cooperation with predatory control, more effective and efficient checking can be had.

NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialist earnestly requests that the Organic Act be amended so as to give the Territorial Legislature authority to make regulations governing fish and game so as to protect our fishing and fur industry efficiently from predators and to enable us to make these important industries more permanent.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the Senate, February 27, 1939.

Passed by the House, March 6, 1939.