

NOW, THEREFORE, We your Memorialist earnestly request that the National Government re-examine the policies regarding withdrawals of public lands, and land and resource reservations, restoring to public entry, occupation and use those areas which have heretofore been set aside that now serve no useful public purpose, and, further, that no additional reservations and withdrawals be made without Alaskans be first given an opportunity to be heard on them.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, March 14, 1941.

Passed by the Senate, March 17, 1941.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 17

TO THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. DIMOND, DELEGATE FROM ALASKA, AND TO THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, GOVERNOR OF ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Fifteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, it is a matter of common knowledge that certain salmon fishing areas in Chatham Straits and Icy Straits were closed by Regulation during the fishing season of 1940 at a time when salmon were found in that area in abundance and were escaping into the spawning streams in a number far in excess of the capacity of said streams; and,

WHEREAS, the result was a great economic waste and deprives the Industry of the opportunity to utilize the fisheries resources to their fullest extent and deprives the fishermen of the privilege of increasing their earnings, which were, and are very low; and,

WHEREAS, by this action the Territory of Alaska was deprived of much needed revenue that would have accrued from the increased pack which could have safely been taken; and,

WHEREAS, this economic waste occurred in spite of protests and the advice of experienced observers who, accompanied by the representatives of the Fish and Wild Life Service, visited the areas in question and observed many hundreds of thousands of unspawned salmon lying dead on the beaches and in the streams because the spawning areas were overcrowded; and,

WHEREAS, moving pictures and still pictures, showing this condition, were made and taken at the time—thus proving the conditions herein set forth beyond a question of a doubt; and,

WHEREAS, it appears doubtful if the fisheries resources of the Territory can be utilized and maintained in a manner consistent with sound principles and conservation methods under the direction of the present inexperienced officials of the Fish and Wild Life Service stationed at Washington, D. C.; and,

WHEREAS, it is highly doubtful if the Industry will or can continue to risk huge sums of invested capital in enterprises that are subject to the whims and fancies of the present Fish and Wild Life Service officials who persist in efforts to regulate and control the Industry from their office in Washington, D. C.;

NOW, THEREFORE, We, your Memorialist, respectfully urge and pray that the matters and things herein set forth be fully investigated and the truth thereof determined; that immediate effort be made to place the direction of the Fish and Wild Life Service in the hands of competent and experienced officials whose permanent residence and headquarters shall be in the Territory of Alaska and that more and greater authority be given to agents in the field who are familiar with conditions existing in their respective districts;

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST FURTHER PRAYS, that steps be taken by law or regulation to create fisheries committees in each fishing district to advise with and counsel with the agents, officers and officials of the Fish and Wild Life Service with respect to the Regulations being made in each district.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, March 18, 1941.

Passed by the Senate, March 20, 1941.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 19

TO THE HONORABLE FRANK P. WALKER, POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. DIMOND, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA, AND TO THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, GOVERNOR OF ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Fifteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully submits that: