

Senate Joint Memorials

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 1

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

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

WHEREAS, it is understood that the Honorable Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, tendered his resignation to you some time ago; and,

WHEREAS, the Honorable Secretary seeks to nullify democratic procedure in force in Alaska, rather than to preserve and extend the same, as is fitting and due the Territory and its citizens. Illustrations of such actions are the Congressional Bills vigorously urged and supported by him and providing one for control of Alaska's shore lands to be placed in his hands and to remove those lands from acquisition and use in the regular established methods; and another for bestowing on him powers to allow non-quota immigrants in large numbers to be admitted to Alaska, and to give those immigrants rights to use areas of the public domain; and,

WHEREAS, he has fostered an unwarranted and coercive control of the Matanuska Farm Colony and the Alaska Railroad and has opposed Congressional investigations that our people have repeatedly prayed for; and,

WHEREAS, he has opposed giving rightful preference to Alaska fishermen and labor over transient workers thus retarding the home building growth of our rich country; and,

WHEREAS, he urged upon the Fourteenth Alaska Legislature a tax measure so restrictive as to stifle initiative and progress in one of the Territory's major industries; and,

WHEREAS, he opposes Alaska's Delegate to Congress, the Honorable Anthony J. Dimond, in almost every endeavor of our Representative to have much needed Alaska legislation pass the Congress; and,

WHEREAS, his attitude toward matters arising concerning the Territory is so consistently in opposition to the attitude of the great majority of the citizens of the Territory, he is looked upon with ill will and resentment by those citizens, and they believe his continuance in office as Secretary of the Interior will retard industry and settlement, and do great general harm within the Territory,

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Alaska Legislature in Fifteenth Regular Session, respectfully pray that the resignation of the Honorable Harold L. Ickes from the Secretaryship of the Department of the Interior be immediately accepted, and a successor be appointed who will have a sympathetic and understanding viewpoint toward Alaska, its problems and its future, and if such resignation be not accepted, that then all control now belonging to the Secretary of the Interior respecting the Territory of Alaska be transferred to the Secretary of Commerce or to the Secretary of Agriculture.

That copies of this memorial be transmitted to the Honorable Anthony J. Dimond, Delegate from Alaska, Honorable Millard E. Tydings, Chairman of Territories and Insular Affairs Committee of the Senate of the United States, Honorable Lex Greene, Chairman, Committee on Territories, House of Representatives and Edward T. Taylor, Chairman of Appropriations Committee, House of Representatives.

Passed by the Senate, February 5, 1941.

Passed by the House, February 5, 1941.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 2

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, AND TO THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. DIMOND, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FOR THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in regular session assembled, respectfully represents that:

WHEREAS, the Government of the United States has expended more than fifty million dollars in the construction of a railway from Seward to Fairbanks, Alaska; and,