

Senate Joint Memorials

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 1

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, AND TO THE DELEGATE FROM ALASKA:

We, your Memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, vast areas of Alaska, patented under the mining and land laws, are held for speculative purposes or lie idle for other reasons, and their present ownership is in many cases unascertainable because such property is not taxed, and

WHEREAS, this condition retards the development and settlement of Alaska, delays and impedes the construction of roads and trails and other projects, as well as explorations for strategic minerals, and can be remedied only by taxation and foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, a general property tax cannot be imposed upon non-producing, patented mining claims, nor a nominal tax upon other patented lands outside of incorporated towns because of the requirement of the Organic Act that all assessments shall be according to actual value, and such taxation is necessary to free such lands from the hands of speculators and others.

NOW THEREFORE, We, your Memorialists, do respectfully pray that section 9 of the Organic Act be amended so as to read as follows:

"Provided, That all authorized indebtedness shall be paid in the order of its creation; all taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects and shall be levied and collected under general laws, and the assessments shall be according to the actual value thereof, except that non-producing, patented mining claims, which are also unimproved, may be valued at the price paid the United States therefore, or at a flat rate fixed by the Legislature, but if the surface ground is used for other than mining purposes, and has a separate and independent value for such other purposes, or if there

are improvements or machinery or other property thereon of such a character as to be deemed a part of the realty, then the same shall be taxed according to actual value.

“Provided further, that a nominal tax not exceeding one dollar per annum for each trade and manufacturing site, nor one cent per acre or fraction thereof per annum for all other non-mineral land outside of incorporated towns, may be levied, in the discretion of the Legislature.”

AND YOUR MEMORIALISTS WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the Senate, February 23, 1943.

Passed by the House, March 2, 1943.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 3

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

Your Memorialists, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Sixteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully represents:

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States during the 77th Congress assembled, did cause to be passed an Act cited as Public Bill No. 208. Said Act removes from the coverage of the Workmen's Compensation Laws of the Territory of Alaska, all those workers now employed on any defense project on the lands of the United States within the Territory of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, by such Act these workers now come under the provisions of the Federal Longshoremen and Harbor Workers' Act; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Anthony J. Dimond, now has caused to be introduced in the House of Representatives a Bill cited as House Bill No. 336, this Act would nullify the provisions of Public Bill No. 208 and again put such workers under the coverage of the Alaska Workmen's Compensation Laws; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Laws of Alaska provide a complete coverage and are more satisfactory under local conditions of the Territory than any other law on the subject covering compensation.

NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the