

## Senate Joint Memorials

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### SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 1

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska in the Seventeenth Regular Session assembled, does most respectfully submit that:

WHEREAS, this Legislature now convened is facing the task of devising ways and means of safeguarding the Territory's population and welfare during the present conflict, and of planning for a broader economic development that will insure a sound future for our own returning veterans and thousands of others in the armed forces and large numbers of civilians, all of whom are looking forward to a home in the northern frontier; and

WHEREAS, the area of the Territory of Alaska in land and water is 378,165,760 acres and of this amount 20,850,000 acres is in the national forests; 6,706,938 in national parks and monuments; 214,471 acres reserved for power sites and withdrawn for power site classification; 32,370 acres reserved for air navigation sites; 23,000,000 acres in military and naval reserves; 48,000,000 acres in the northern Alaska Petroleum Reserve; 15,000 acres in lighthouse reservations; 2,339,950 acres in Indian and native reservations; 13,800,840 in game and bird refuges; 9,000,000 acres in highway and railway reservations; 253,440 acres in the Matanuska Valley colonization project; 270,000 acres patented under various public land laws; and

WHEREAS, there is a total of 151,482,909 acres of reserved land in the Territory of Alaska with plans underway for further withdrawals at the direction of the Secretary of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior while publicly voicing a desire to aid and assist in populating the Territory and developing its resources has, notwithstanding, followed a persistent course to the contrary, and through questionable interpretation of his powers has withdrawn vast areas of land and water from the public domain and prohibited their use and development by the people; and

WHEREAS, a continuation of such a policy will lead to placing most of Alaska in reservations and curb its development and the welfare of its people; and

WHEREAS, it has been through the years the announced policy in connection with public lands in the nation to make them available to the people, thus building a great and virile nation of strong and independent people; and

WHEREAS, the actions of the present Secretary of the Interior, the Honorable Harold L. Ickes, are in direct conflict with this policy;

NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Seventeenth regular session assembled, respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States through its proper committee to immediately investigate the policies of the Secretary of the Interior relating to land withdrawals in Alaska that relief may be granted the people of the Territory from the ever-growing burden resulting from his policies, and that copies of this memorial be sent to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honorable E. L. Bartlett, Delegate to Congress from Alaska; the Public Lands and Surveys Committee of the Senate and the Public Lands Committee of the House of Representatives.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the Senate February 13, 1945.

Passed by the House March 15, 1945.

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## SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 2

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

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, respectfully represents that: