

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS, the prosperity of the Territory of Alaska is dependent primarily upon gold mining and its fisheries, and

WHEREAS, the gold mining properties of the United States and Alaska, and more particularly the gold mining properties within our Territory and the operators are confronted by tremendously increased wage and material costs, and are unable to sell their products in the markets of the world, but are instead compelled to sell only to the United States Government at the inexorable fixed price of Thirty-Five (\$35.00) Dollars an ounce as provided in the Gold Reserve Act of 1934, and

WHEREAS, since 1934 wage costs have more than doubled and costs of necessary materials and all other operating costs have increased approximately 70%, during which period there has been no increase in the price of gold, and

WHEREAS, the gold mining industry of the Territory of Alaska is at the present time in a precarious state of depression, and practically all gold mining properties have been either abandoned, closed down, or have had production greatly curtailed, and

WHEREAS, the gold mining properties of Alaska do not produce other metals in any appreciable quantities and are dependent solely upon their production of gold, and

WHEREAS, large sections of the Territory are dependent solely upon the gold mining properties, most of which are at the present time inoperative on account of the costs hereinabove mentioned, and

WHEREAS, the gold mines of the Territory sustained enormous losses during the compulsory period of the shut-down during World War II, and most of them have been unable to resume operations, and

WHEREAS, continuance of the gold mining industry in Alaska is of vital importance to the economic welfare of the Territory, and

WHEREAS, there are pending in the 81st Congress, both in the House and Senate, certain bills which have for their purpose removal of some of the restrictions which now prevent the operation of gold mining properties in the United States and Alaska, and

WHEREAS, among such bills are Senate Bill No. 13, by Senator McCarran of Nevada, Senate Bill No. 286, by Senator Johnson of Colorado, and House Bill No. 387, by Mr. Engle of California.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Territory of Alaska, the Senate concurring, that we endorse the passage of Senate Bill No. 13, Senate Bill No. 286, and House Bill No. 387, by both Houses of the Congress of the United States, and that the relief provided in these bills be granted to the gold mining industry of the United States and Alaska; and that the Congress of the United States amend the Gold Reserve Act of 1934 to permit gold producers of the United States and Alaska to sell their gold in the markets of the world; and that the present restrictions which prevent our citizens from buying, holding or selling gold either in the domestic or foreign market, be removed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Delegate to Congress from Alaska, to Senator McCarran of Nevada, to Senator Johnson of Colorado, to Representative Engle of California, to the Secretary of the Interior, to the Committee on Banking and Currency of the House of Representatives, and to the Committee on Banking and Currency in the United States Senate.

Passed by the House March 14, 1949.

Passed by the Senate March 18, 1949.

Approved by the Governor March 24, 1949.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS, copies of the Alaska Compiled Laws Annotated 1949 and other books furnished to each member of the Nineteenth