

HOUSE MEMORIAL NO. 23

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES; TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES; TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR:

WHEREAS, the people of the Territory of Alaska have, by overwhelming majority vote at the general election of October 12, 1948, 19,712 to 2,624, demanded the abolition over a ten year period of fish traps in the Territory of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, legislation calling for the abolition of fish traps has been repeatedly introduced in the Congress of the United States by the delegates of the Territory of Alaska, and has as often failed of passage; and

WHEREAS, the custodians of the fishery resources of the territory, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, continue to ignore the wishes of the people with regard to fish traps, and have in fact, harrassed and discriminated against the independent Alaska fisherman by increasing the weekly periods closed to fishing; and

WHEREAS, the Territorial Fisheries Department and the Alaska Fisheries Board, created by the 19th Territorial Legislature, have both recognized the serious depletion in the fishing industry caused by fish traps, and have demanded their abolition; and

WHEREAS, legislation is now pending in the Congress of the United States to permit the people of Alaska a hand in management of their major industry and resource by vesting control of the fisheries of the territory in the Territorial Government;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the Territory of Alaska in 20th Session assembled, that the Congress of the United States take immediate action transferring control of the fishing industry to the government of the Territory of Alaska.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House February 20, 1951.

Approved by the Governor February 21, 1951.