

the House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard Nixon, President of the Senate; the Honorable E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, Senators from Alaska; and the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, Representative from Alaska:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Alaska in First Legislature, Second Session assembled respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, the citizens of Barrow, Alaska, are in desperate need of fuel with which to heat their homes during the harsh Arctic winter; and

WHEREAS, this desperate need is a chronic, annual occurrence, caused by Barrow's extreme isolation from its artificially determined sources of fuel supply; and

WHEREAS, a ready source of natural gas for fuel is now being used at Barrow, but exclusively by the federal government as a private monopoly for the several federal agencies located at Barrow; and

WHEREAS, this source of fuel, although held as a private monopoly by the federal government, is rightly the property of all the people — its discovery, exploitation, transmission, and even its very monopoly use being paid for from the tax moneys of the people, including the citizens of Barrow; and

WHEREAS, the only argument advanced against the use of the natural gas by the citizens of Barrow is that such use will result in a more rapid diminution of the source than will the private, re-

stricted use of the several federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, these federal agencies would never want for fuel even if the gas were completely expended and the only suffering they would experience would be inconvenience rather than cold such as the citizens of Barrow must suffer; and

WHEREAS, the welfare of our citizens is immeasurably more important than is the convenience of any or all the federal agencies, and the convenience of any government should never be placed before the welfare of the people from which all legitimate government springs and in which all legitimate powers of government rest; and

WHEREAS, Secretary of the Interior Seaton promised the people of Barrow that he would do all possible to supply them with natural gas; that his department was not opposed to such a move; that only technical, legal difficulties stood in the way of such a move; and that if these difficulties could not be solved administratively, he would "initiate legislation making the gas available to the Barrow Eskimos";

NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges the Honorable Secretary of the Interior to honor his promise to the people of Barrow and to meet his duties as a servant of the people and requests the federal government to relinquish its selfish monopoly on the natural gas supply of Barrow and share with the people the fuel which they so desperately need.

Passed by the House February 5, 1960.

Passed by the Senate February 11, 1960.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 36

To the President of the United States and the Honorable E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, Senators from Alaska; the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, Representative from Alaska; the Honorable Clarence Cannon, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; and the Honorable Carl Hayden, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of

the State of Alaska in First Legislature, Second Session assembled respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska abounds in a natural wealth of virgin forests; and

WHEREAS, the wealth of these forests is barely tapped; and

WHEREAS, the proper utilization of

this natural wealth so fortunately bestowed upon this state requires that potential users be adequately informed of the exact nature of the forests, of their extent, and of their potential and several uses; and

WHEREAS, the federal government expends more on the gathering of such information by the Forest Service in the other states than it does in Alaska, yet the forests of these other states have already received a much more thorough investigation than have the forests of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the economic development of this state requires that every resource be utilized in the best way possible; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of the forests will bring more plants, mills, boats,

and people to this state, result in an increase to the nation's receipts from the use of our national forests, and alleviate a rapidly mounting and costly shortage of wood products, especially pulp products;

NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges that the President of the United States and the congressional delegation from Alaska prevail upon the Department of Agriculture and the United States Forest Service to alleviate this unfortunate situation by increasing their requests for federal appropriations for the Forest Research Centers in Alaska for the purpose of making investigations and projections of the potential of Alaska's vast forests.

Passed by the House February 11, 1960.

Passed by the Senate February 19, 1960.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 37

To the Honorable Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Wayne N. Aspinall, Chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable James E. Murray, Chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, Senators from Alaska; and the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, Representative from Alaska:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Alaska in First Legislature, Second Session assembled respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, the development of petroleum resources in the State of Alaska are vitally important to the future economic growth of this state; and

WHEREAS, the exploration of potential petroleum fields in the State of Alaska will be of great benefit, not only to the State of Alaska, but to the United States as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the present limitations of an aggregate of 300,000 acres to any one lessee makes it improvident from an economics standpoint for a lessee, in some cases, to explore his leaseholdings; and

WHEREAS, lessees interested in oil

exploration will not, ordinarily, invest money in that exploration, where the risk of discovering petroleum resources on or near the perimeter of their leaseholdings makes that exploration imprudent and only a larger leasehold would reduce this risk; and

WHEREAS, considerable expense is associated with petroleum exploration in Alaska since in virtually all cases access roads must be constructed, some many miles in length, which must withstand continued use by extremely large and heavy equipment; and

WHEREAS, the cost of access roads is much greater per unit of distance in Alaska than it is in the other petroleum fields of the other states of the United States; and

WHEREAS, comparatively speaking, many more access roads are necessary than in the petroleum fields of the other states of the United States; and

WHEREAS, there are over one hundred lessees of petroleum rights in the State of Alaska, yet the large majority are prohibited by economic factors from exploration of their leaseholdings because the size of the individual leaseholding does not warrant the expense of that exploration; and