



Alaska State Legislature

1973

Source:

HJR 19 am

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

Relating to United States Coast Guard personnel and facilities in Alaska.

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

WHEREAS during 1972 President Nixon ordered the United States Coast Guard to reduce its manpower; and

WHEREAS rumors currently are rampant that due to additional budget reductions on the national level, the United States Coast Guard may be further cut back from even maintaining its present strength; and

WHEREAS continuously for many years Alaska has requested and needs more Coast Guard vessels and men in order to adequately patrol our vast coastlines, protect our fisheries from the blatant intrusion of foreign vessels, and perform its never-ending search and rescue operations; and

WHEREAS, for instance, with any additional budget reductions for the Coast Guard Alaska stands to lose a vessel currently stationed in Seward, and a desperately needed helicopter based in Cordova will not be received until 1976; and

WHEREAS, instead of any further reductions in Coast Guard manpower, facilities, and capability, Alaska is desperately in need of more fisheries surveillance and search and rescue operations, the present complement of Coast Guard equipment in Alaska being totally inadequate to ensure the sanctity of our waters and resources and protection of our lives and property;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that it protests vigorously any planned reduction of Coast Guard manpower or

deactivation of enforcement ships when Alaska is in urgent need of additional Coast Guard patrol capabilities in Alaska; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Coast Guard is respectfully urged to immediately plan for and request of the United States Congress increased funding for the general overall upgrading of Coast Guard capability, especially in Alaska; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the President is respectfully requested to direct the Office of Budget and Management to release all impounded funds for the Coast Guard; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States is urged to approve at the earliest possible time all appropriations and plans submitted to it for the general upgrading of Coast Guard services, especially as they pertain to Alaska.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John A. Volpe, Secretary, Department of Transportation; Admiral Chester R. Bender, Commandant, United States Coast Guard; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.