



Alaska State Legislature

1973

Source:

HJR 38

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38

Relating to the Jones Act.

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

WHEREAS, until a recent reinterpretation of the Jones Act by the Bureau of Customs, foreign flag operators were permitted to transport cruise passengers between United States ports if they went via nearby foreign ports; and

WHEREAS it has now been ruled by the Bureau of Customs that such cruises are and will be interpreted as a violation of the Jones Act; and

WHEREAS this ruling, if permitted to stand, will drastically adversely affect Alaska and Hawaii, especially since no domestic carrier is in a position to offer the same type of service and frequency presently being offered by several foreign flag cruise ship operators; and

WHEREAS these cruises are not providing point-to-point transportation, which is prohibited by the Jones Act, but are, in fact, a form of leisure time recreation with 75 per cent of the passengers' time being spent at sea;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the Bureau of Customs is urgently requested to reverse its recent ruling that foreign bottom cruise ships transporting persons between United States ports via nearby foreign ports are in violation of the Jones Act as that determination is in complete conflict with the Bureau's prior interpretations, is contrary to the intent of federal law, and is otherwise unfair and detrimental to the economy of the United States.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable George P. Shultz, Secretary, Department of the Treasury; the Honorable Vernon D. Acree, Commissioner, Bureau of Customs; the Honorable Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman, Senate Commerce Committee; the Honorable Leonor K. Sullivan, Chairman, House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.