



Alaska State Legislature

1973

Source:

HJR 48 am

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

Relating to the definition of a citizen of the United States.

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

WHEREAS in 1972 the State of Alaska established a commercial fishing loan program under which the state would make direct loans to commercial fishermen for the repair and rehabilitation of their fishing vessels; and

WHEREAS the Act establishing the program requires that a loan be secured by a first lien; and

WHEREAS under the Ship Mortgage Act of 1920 (46 USC secs. 911 - 984), in order to obtain a preferred ship mortgage, it is required that the mortgagee be a "citizen of the United States"; and

WHEREAS there is a degree of ambiguity and uncertainty as to whether a state of the United States is a "citizen" within the meaning of that term as it is used in the Ship Mortgage Act of 1920; and

WHEREAS the state stands ready to make loans to commercial fishermen under the state's commercial fishing loan program on the security of preferred ships mortgages as soon as the uncertainty as to the state's status as a "citizen" is resolved;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress of the United States is requested to amend the Ship Mortgage Act of 1920 to include a state within the definition of a "citizen" in 46 USC sec. 922(a)(55) for purposes of the Ship Mortgage Act of 1920.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and to the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.