



Alaska State Legislature

1973

Source:

SJR 15 am H

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Relating to the National Marine Fisheries Service surveillance and enforcement program.

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

WHEREAS enforcement and surveillance activities of the National Marine Fisheries Service and United States Coast Guard personnel based in Alaska, due to the provisions of the bilateral fisheries agreement between the United States and Japan for the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, have disclosed numerous violations; and

WHEREAS Japanese fishing vessels have also been guilty of violations of the abstention provisions of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission with regard to high seas salmon fishing; and

WHEREAS the United States has been trying for years to establish an expanded observation, surveillance and enforcement program with regard to the foreign high seas fishing effort; and

WHEREAS Japan had resisted our efforts to establish a more meaningful observer, surveillance and enforcement program but finally agreed to the necessity for such expansion during the recent United States - Japan bilateral fishery negotiations in Washington, D. C.; and

WHEREAS there have been recent indications that the federal government might reduce funding to the National Marine Fisheries Service enforcement and observer programs at the very time when Japan has agreed to an enlarged program;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the President of the United States and the Secretary of Commerce are urgently requested to review the importance to the United States of the enforcement and surveillance effort in the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States and the Secretary of Commerce take all appropriate steps immediately to assure that adequate funding for the expanded enforcement and surveillance program be assured for both the balance of fiscal year 1972-73 and for fiscal year 1973-74.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Fredrick Dent, Secretary Designate, Department of Commerce; the Honorable Philip M. Roedel, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.