



# Alaska State Legislature

1975

Source:

CSSJR 5

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Relating to RCA Alaska Communications, Inc., proposed satellite system.

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

WHEREAS, during the course of the past several years, the Alaska Legislature has registered its opinion with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding Alaska's communications requirements and needs; and

WHEREAS several firms, aside from RCA, Inc. -- RCA Global Communications, Inc. (RCA Globcom) and RCA Alaska Communications, Inc. (RCA Alascom) -- have indicated their willingness to supply the State of Alaska with the necessary hardware for a viable communications system at a reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, originally, RCA Alascom offered no satellite facility and was persuaded to do so only after a great deal of effort, time, and money; and

WHEREAS the citizens of Alaska are now facing a burdensome rate base for a communications system that will include outmoded terrestrial equipment and satellite communications; and

WHEREAS the citizens of Alaska are vitally concerned about the advisability of a single company being able to dominate communications in Alaska; and

WHEREAS an application for construction permits by RCA Alascom from the Federal Communications Commission is due to be considered by that body in the near future;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the

following requirements be met before the Federal Communications Commission approves the application of RCA Alaska Communications, Inc.:

(1) that RCA Alascom agrees to furnish a communications satellite containing some transponders with sufficiently high power and gain as to definitely assure the receipt of high quality television signals at all permitted ground station locations;

(2) that the FCC require full, periodic disclosure of the present and continuing interrelationships of RCA Alascom, RCA Globcom, and RCA, Inc., to the FCC, the Alaska Public Utilities Commission and the Governor's Office of Telecommunications or its successor, particularly including financial and legal data on the respective shares owned and manner of use made by each of these companies in any shared satellite;

(3) that written contracts be executed between RCA Alascom and RCA Globcom guaranteeing that Alaska's communications needs will be met and that adequate channel capacity will be available for Alaska on any communications satellite jointly owned by these companies;

(4) that the FCC make clear that RCA Alascom is not to have exclusive rights under any permit or license granted;

(5) that no approval be given until public hearings are conducted throughout Alaska;

(6) that after consideration of the pending application, the FCC will require RCA Alascom to ask for bids in the open market for any future satellite needs so that it may not unilaterally choose to deal only with its parent company, RCA Globcom;

(7) that RCA Alascom and RCA Globcom agree to have separate reporting and financial systems and that they file reports as may be required to the Alaska Public Utilities Commission and the Governor's Office of Telecommunications or its successor.

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