

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1977

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

HJR 41 am

100



Relating to the use of coal as fuel at Fort Richardson and Elmendorf Air Force Base.

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

WHEREAS the severe winter experienced by much of the United States was accompanied by an increased demand for natural gas, which is used for cooking and residential heating by many citizens as well as being utilized in many ways by the petrochemical industry; and

WHEREAS natural gas is a premium fuel for residential use and a unique resource for petrochemical feedstock; and

WHEREAS most experts believe that the current reserves of natural gas are at a critical level, and that conservation measures must begin now; and

WHEREAS the technology for the clean burning of fossil fuels other than natural gas by large industrial power and space heating consumers is available; and

WHEREAS within Alaska two major military installations, Fort Richardson and Elmendorf Air Force Base, once burned coal for fuel but were converted to use natural gas; and

WHEREAS Fort Richardson's annual consumption of natural gas amounts to 100,000 tons of standard fuel and Elmendorf Air Force Base's consumption is at least as much; and

WHEREAS reopening of the Matanuska coal field will create new employment with no offsetting loss of gas field employment; and

WHEREAS it would be in keeping with the national policy of energy conservation recently announced by the President for

these major military installations in Alaska to lead the movement by reconverting from natural gas usage to coal;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Air Force to take whatever action is appropriate to insure that Fort Richardson and Elmendorf Air Force Base are reconverted to use coal as fuel before the next winter season.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States; the Honorable James R. Schlesinger, Chairman Energy Resources Council and Assistant to the President; the Honorable Clifford L. Alexander, Secretary of the Army; the Honorable John Stetson, Secretary of the Air Force; General James Boatner, Commanding General, Fort Richardson; Lieutenant General M. L. Boswell, Commander, Alaska Air Command, Elmendorf Air Force Base; 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.