

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1977

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SJR 22

72



Requesting the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp marking the 200th anniversary of the voyage of Captain James Cook.

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

WHEREAS 1978 will mark the 200th anniversary of the voyage of Captain James Cook and his arrival in Alaska; and

WHEREAS Captain Cook and his two British Royal Navy ships, the RESOLUTION and the DISCOVERY set sail from Plymouth, England, in July, 1776, the same month as this nation's founders framed and announced the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, nearly two years later, Captain Cook and his crews made their first landfall in Alaska naming the land they viewed Prince of Wales Island; as Cook's voyagers beat their way northward along the Southeastern Alaska archipelago, they spied a symmetrical cone arising from the sea near present-day Sitka, to which Cook gave the name Mt. Edgecumbe; and

WHEREAS, in his vain search for the fabled Northwest Passage, the noted navigator and explorer discovered and charted the body of water now known as Cook Inlet, anchoring his vessels, June 1, 1778, just off shore from what is now Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, as a part of the continuing commemoration of events surrounding the American Revolution Bicentennial, it would be fitting for the United States Postal Service to pay philatelic tribute to the Bicentenary of Captain James Cook's significant early contribution to the knowledge of this Great Land and to his exploration's role in the development of the maritime history of both Alaska and the American nation;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States Postal Service is respectfully requested to issue, in 1978, a commemorative postage stamp marking the 200th

anniversary of the voyage of Captain James Cook in recognition of his exploration, discovery and charting of the waterways of Alaska and his subsequent discovery of the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands, encompassing our sister state of Hawaii; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Postal Service also is respectfully requested to designate Anchorage, Alaska as the site for the first day of issue of this commemorative postage stamp.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Benjamin F. Bailer, Postmaster General of the United States; the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee; 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.