

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1978

Source

Legislative  
Resolve No.

SCS CSHJR 60

18



Requesting the federal government to remove solid waste on land in Alaska in accordance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (P.L. 94-580).

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

WHEREAS there is no greater blight on the land than solid waste in the form of discarded and abandoned machinery and materials; and

WHEREAS this accumulation, largely a result of early military, industrial, and exploratory development, has in many cases been a hazard and eyesore for several decades; and

WHEREAS the debris problem is compounded by the fact that land in Alaska is often treeless and underlain by permafrost; and

WHEREAS the initial federal study of solid waste on federal land in Alaska required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-580) has inventoried all the solid waste sites on Alaska's federal land and land transferred to Natives under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (P.L. 92-203), listing the type and quantity of abandoned debris for all sites; and

WHEREAS the final version of this report, due in April 1978, will provide an additional inventory, recommend methods for cleanup, and estimate costs, suggest administrative actions, and establish cleanup priorities among sites; and

WHEREAS federal cleanup programs to remove the debris should focus on those sites at which serious environmental and health problems are created by the solid waste, such as the open dumps which exist at the DEWLine sites along the Arctic coast; and

WHEREAS cleanup of solid waste debris deposited as a result of federal activities on federal and Native transfer land in

Alaska properly remains the responsibility of the federal government;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges all federal agencies administering public land in Alaska to take swift action to remove or dispose of solid waste debris on Alaska's federal land and land transferred under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (P.L. 92-203) so that the debris can be eliminated in an expeditious and cost-effective manner.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States; the Honorable Douglas M. Costle, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; the Honorable Jennings Randolph, Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee; the Honorable Harley O. Staggers, Chairman of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; the Honorable John Seiberling, U. S. Representative; the Honorable Morris Udall, U. S. Representative; 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; and to the Honorable Ernst W. Mueller, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.