

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1978

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SJR 37

9



Relating to the conservation of bowhead whales.

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

WHEREAS the United States is a signatory to the International Whaling Convention of December 2, 1946 which established the International Whaling Commission; and

WHEREAS the International Whaling Commission has limited the harvest of bowhead whales by subsistence whalers who live on Alaska's arctic coasts to only 12 whales in 1978; and

WHEREAS Alaska's subsistence whalers have responded to national concern over the harvest of bowhead whales by organizing the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission to cooperate with the United States Government in the conservation and management of the bowhead whale; and

WHEREAS the entire subsistence bowhead whaling controversy has revealed a lack of knowledge about the numbers and welfare of the bowhead whale throughout its range; and

WHEREAS research on the numbers and welfare of the bowhead whale must have the highest priority in order to assure successful conservation and management of the bowhead whale;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Secretary of Commerce to allocate adequate funding to a comprehensive long-term research program on the status of bowhead as well as all other arctic whales; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of Commerce is respectfully requested to cooperate with the State of Alaska and the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission in the management of the bowhead whale conservation program, including the enforcement of

the bowhead whale harvest quota.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Juanita Kreps, Secretary of Commerce; to Jacob Adams, Chairman, Alaska Eskimo Whaling 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.