

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1980

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SJR 54

12



Relating to marine sanitation requirements imposed by U.S. Coast Guard regulations.

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

WHEREAS in 1972 Congress enacted 33 U.S.C. 1322 which directed the U.S. Coast Guard to adopt regulations requiring the installation of sewage holding or treatment devices on vessels using navigable waters; and

WHEREAS on February 1, 1980, U.S. Coast Guard regulations went into effect which require the owners of vessels constructed before January 30, 1975, to install sewage treatment or holding devices on board their vessels; and

WHEREAS these regulations are intended to prevent the pollution of the marine environment by prohibiting the discharge of raw or untreated sewage; and

WHEREAS the vessels in Alaska to which these regulations apply are not numerous enough to endanger the marine environment if they continue to operate without sewage treatment or holding devices; and

WHEREAS the cost of complying with these regulations is causing hardship for all persons in Alaska who own small vessels, and particularly those who must rely on their vessels to earn a living by hunting and fishing;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Congress is respectfully requested to amend 33 U.S.C. 1322 to allow vessels constructed before January 30, 1975, to operate in Alaska coastal waters without sewage treatment or holding devices.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States; Admiral John B. Hayes, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; 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.