

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1981

Legislative
Resolve No.

Source

SJR 48

28



Relating to the implementation of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Control Act by the Secretary of the Interior.

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

WHEREAS the Secretary of the Interior is directed by sec. 708 of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Control Act to determine whether any of the provisions of the Act should be modified with respect to surface coal mining operations in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Secretary of the Interior is directed to report to Congress his proposals for legislation to implement his recommendations to the Act relating to surface coal mining operations in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Secretary of the Interior has not reported to Congress his recommendations with respect to the implementation of the Act with respect to surface coal mining operations in Alaska; and

WHEREAS it is in the public interest for the Secretary of the Interior to review and reconsider any recommendations prepared by the former administration before making his proposals to Congress; and

WHEREAS the coal mining industry has great potential in the State of Alaska but is presently a relatively small industry; and

WHEREAS it is the goal of the State of Alaska to seek a reasonable and orderly development of the coal resources of the state; and

WHEREAS it is in the interest of both the United States and the State of Alaska to avoid the enactment of inappropri-

ate laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS the legislature will consider the enactment of a meaningful and responsive system for the control of surface coal mining operations in Alaska during the 1982 session of the legislature;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Secretary of the Interior is respectfully urged to defer the recommendation to Congress under sec. 708 of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Control Act until the legislature has had a chance to enact a state system for the control of surface coal mining during the 1982 session of the legislature.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable James G. Watt, Secretary of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.