

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1984

Source

Legislative  
Resolve No.

CSSJR 29(Res) am H

32



Supporting variance requests by pulp mills in Southeast Alaska.

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

WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency is now considering variance requests from the pulp mills in Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS the pulp mills in Sitka and Ketchikan provide an economic base by employing many residents of Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS the quality of water and marine life is not adversely affected by the current effluent discharge from the pulp mills; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has found that continued discharge will not impact state water quality and supports the issuance of the variance; and

WHEREAS the former Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator issued a tentative decision on December 28, 1981, that would have granted the variance; and

WHEREAS the variance being considered would enable the pulp mills to continue to treat their waste products in a more efficient and economical manner; and

WHEREAS the denial of the variance would constitute treatment for treatment's sake, would create an air pollution problem if the mills did comply and would most likely cause the pulp mills and related facilities to cease operating because the cost of additional waste treatment is prohibitive; and

WHEREAS the United States Forest Service has determined that

the closure of the pulp mills would cause a \$147.6 million per year loss of income in Southeast Alaska;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges that the variances requested by the mills be granted; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Environmental Protection Agency to consider the loss of income in the event of the mills' closure as part of the cost of achieving "guideline best practical technology" in determining whether the cost of compliance is wholly out of proportion to the model mill.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable William Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; Ernesta Barnes, Regional Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; 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.