



Alaska State Legislature

1969

Source:

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JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to the protection of fish and shellfish resources in waters over the continental shelf of the United States.

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

WHEREAS the present nine-mile contiguous fishery zone is an artificial area based on developing custom and not on the biological needs and migratory habits of species occupying the continental shelf, its overlying or superadjacent waters; and

WHEREAS destruction and incidental catches by foreign gear of protected or fully utilized species, especially king crab, tanner crab and immature halibut, are causing deep concern among scientists, fishermen and the industry; and

WHEREAS some domestic fisheries are either endangered, or have virtually ceased in some areas, or have been prevented from expanding in a free and orderly manner by the admitted over-exploitation of certain stocks, pre-emption of fishing grounds or the destruction of our gear by foreign fleets; and

WHEREAS additional foreign countries have sent exploratory fleets to areas of our shores and are developing the ability to further exploit the shellfish, dimersal and pelagic fishes of our continental shelf, thereby compounding a serious and alarming situation;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests that the government of the United States strive to extend its jurisdiction over and protection of all fishery resources of the continental shelf adjoining the states and territories of this country, including those species occupying the overlying waters of the shelf and those superadjacent waters that admit to the exploitation of the creatures of the continental shelf.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable

John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House; the Honorable Richard B. Russell, President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable William Rogers, Secretary of the Department of State; the Honorable Walter J. Hickel, Secretary of the Department of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and to the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.