

JOURNAL  
SUPPLEMENT

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February 11, 1975 JOINT SENATE AND HOUSE

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No. 3

ADDRESS BY CONGRESSMAN DON YOUNG  
BEFORE THE JOINT SESSION  
OF THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
FEBRUARY 11, 1975

PRESIDENT CROFT,  
SPEAKER BRADNER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN  
OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE:

THANK YOU FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF  
ADDRESSING A JOINT SESSION OF THE STATE  
LEGISLATURE.

SINCE I SPOKE FROM THIS PODIUM A YEAR AGO,  
THE NATION HAS WEATHERED SOME SERIOUS  
STORMS...BOTH POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

MOST SERIOUS OF ALL, THE FREE WORLD  
ECONOMY HAS CONTINUED ITS FRIGHTENING DOWNWARD  
TREND...

BATTERED BETWEEN RAMPANT INFLATION AND  
UNCERTAIN ENERGY SUPPLIES.

DANGEROUS UNREST AFFLICTS THE NATION.

AS AN ALASKAN IT'S REFRESHING TO  
RETURN TO OUR STATE, BECAUSE IT'S POSSIBLE  
TO SEE FROM THIS NORTHERN VANTAGE POINT A  
SILVER LINING...A HOPE THAT THERE IS AN  
ANSWER TO OUR NATION'S PROBLEMS.

February 11, 1975

AS ONE OF YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON, I CAN SAY IN ALL HONESTY THAT IT IS REFRESHING TO BE ABLE TO WORK AND FIGHT FOR A STATE SO FILLED WITH OPTIMISM AT THIS TIME OF GENERAL GLOOM.

I'M OFTEN TEMPTED TO THINK THAT THE ONLY TRULY FRESH AND HOPEFUL IDEAS IN CONGRESS ARE COMING FROM ALASKA.

THE REST OF THE PROPOSALS I HEAR DEBATED EVERYDAY ARE FOR THE MOST PART REHASHED PROGRAMS FROM THE PAST.

REGARDLESS WHAT SIDE OF THE AISLE THEY CAME FROM THEY ALL SEEM TO LACK THE IMAGINATION, THE URGENCY AND THE RAU-  
NERVE IT WILL TAKE TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF THE DIMENSIONS WE FACE.

THE ONE MAJOR EXCEPTION IS PRESIDENT FORD'S STRONG BELIEF THAT IT IS TIME WE DEVELOPED ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES....NOW.

IF A LARGE ENOUGH PORTION OF THE TAXES HE HAS RECOMMENDED ON OIL IMPORTS ARE DEDICATED TO THAT END....I CAN SUPPORT THEM WITH ENTHUSIASM.

WE'VE GOT TO STOP RELYING ON OIL AS OUR TOTAL SOURCE OF ENERGY.

February 11, 1975

WE'VE BEEN LIVING IN A DREAM WORLD, DEPENDING ON OUR NON-RENEWABLE, EXPENDABLE SOURCES OF POWER.

IN THE NAME OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WE'VE ABANDONED THE CLEANEST SOURCE OF ENERGY THERE IS....HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER.

WE HAVEN'T BUILT ONE DAM OF ANY SIGNIFICANT SIZE IN TEN YEARS.

WE'VE WRITTEN OFF COAL.

AND YET COAL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A DIRTY SOURCE OF ENERGY. CLEAN COAL CAN BE ECONOMICAL IF WE WILL STOP THINKING IN THE RUTTED WAYS OF THE PAST.

AND WE HAVE ENOUGH OF IT TO LAST US OVER 1000 YEARS.

GEOHERMAL ENERGY IS ANOTHER GOD-SEND.... NOT ONLY FOR OUR STATE, THAT IS LITERALLY A HOT-BED OF POTENTIAL UNDERGROUND POWER.... BUT FOR MANY OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN AND WESTERN STATES AS WELL.

WE'VE DREAMED OF SOLAR POWER....BUT THAT'S ALL IT'S BEEN....A DREAM.

WE'VE PLAYED GAMES WITH IT.

WE'VE NEVER INVESTED THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES NECESSARY TO MAKE IT FEASIBLE.

ALL I'M SAYING IS....PRESIDENT FORD'S PROGRAM HAS MERIT....IF WE PUT THAT TAX MONEY BACK INTO THIS TYPE OF SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH FOR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.

AMERICA CAN BE JUSTIFIED IN PUTTING ITS HOPE IN THESE ALTERNATE SOURCES OF POWER.

ONCE THEY ARE ON LINE, THEY WILL PUT US BACK INTO THE WORLD MARKET.

MOST OTHER INDUSTRIAL NATIONS DON'T HAVE THE OPTION.

THEY WILL REMAIN DEPENDENT ON OIL FOR DECADES TO COME.

THINK ABOUT IT.  
JAPAN, GERMANY AND ENGLAND ARE NOT EXACTLY IN THE HEART OF THE SUNSHINE BELT.

THEIR CLIMATES ARE NOT CONDUSIVE TO SOLAR ENERGY.

THEY ALSO LACK HYDRO POTENTIAL....THEY ARE RAPIDLY DEPLETING THEIR SOURCES OF COAL...AND, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JAPAN, THEY HAVE ONLY REMOTE GEOTHERMAL POSSIBILITIES.

YES, AMERICA ONCE AGAIN APPEARS BLESSED BY NATURE.

WITH OUR GREAT POTENTIAL FOR ALTERNATE ENRGY DEVELOPMENT, WE WILL ONCE AGAIN BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH THE PRODUCING NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

AND MAKE NO MISTAKE, PRODUCTION IS WHAT MAKES AN ECONOMY STRONG.

WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO IT.

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT OVERLY CONCERNED BY THE WAY THE ARABS ARE RIDING HIGH AT THIS TIME.

THEIR DOMINANCE WILL BE SHORT-LIVED.

THAT HAVING BEEN SAID, WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE REALITY THAT THE ISSUE OF OUR IMMEDIATE FUTURE IS....OIL.

AND BECAUSE THAT'S THE WAY IT IS, A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY RESTS ON US....THE ALASKAN PEOPLE.

OIL IS OUR OPPORTUNITY.

BUT IT IS ALSO OUR DANGER.

THERE ARE THOSE IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TODAY WHO WANT TO MAKE ALASKA THE SOLE SALVATION OF THE NATION'S ILLS.

I DO NOT SHARE THAT CONVICTION.

I BELIEVE WE MUST BE CAREFUL WE DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY IN OUR OWN EXCITEMENT.

WE HAVE MUCH TO OFFER, AND MUCH TO GAIN.

BUT WE ALSO HAVE MUCH TO RISK AND MUCH TO LOSE.

MY POINT IS THAT WE MUST REALIZE THAT WE ARE NOT THE ONLY STATE THAT HAS UNDEVELOPED RESERVES OF OIL AND GAS.

THERE ARE SOME 15 BILLION BARRELS OF OIL OFF THE EAST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES.

10 BILLION BARRELS OFF FLORIDA...AND ANOTHER 10 BILLION OFF CALIFORNIA AND OREGON.

THESE OTHER STATES MUST SHARE THE NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT WITH US...AND SHARE THE BURDEN AS WELL.

AND YET NOT ONE GOVERNOR OF ANY U.S. COASTAL STATE WANTS OFFSHORE CONTINENTAL SHELF LEASING OFF HIS OWN SHORES.

WHY THEN SHOULD WE?

ESPECIALLY WHEN WE'LL GET ALL THE IMPACT....BUT NOT A NICKEL OF THE REVENUE.

THAT'S WHY I'M FIGHTING FOR A BILL THAT WOULD DIVIDE THE REVENUES FROM OFFSHORE OIL 50-50 BETWEEN THE STATES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

IN MY PLAN, ALL FIFTY STATES WOULD RECEIVE A PERCENTAGE OF THOSE REVENUES DIRECTLY....NOT FILTERED THROUGH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENT.

OF COURSE, THE HOST STATE...SUCH AS OUR OWN...WOULD RECEIVE THE LION'S SHARE OF THE MONIES DESIGNATED FOR THE STATES.

BUT EVERY STATE IN THE UNION...EVEN IOWA AND ARKANSAS...WOULD RECEIVE A SHARE OF THIS BOUNTY.

RECENTLY, I MET WITH THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMEN TO DISCUSS THE ENERGY NEEDS OF THE COUNTRY.

AT THAT TIME, I PRESENTED MY REVENUE SHARING PROPOSAL AND IT RECEIVED A VERY FAVORABLE RESPONSE.

IN THE MEANTIME, SECRETARY MORTON DID INSTRUCT THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR TO STUDY FORMULAS FOR REVENUE SHARING.

WE WILL HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE COASTAL STATES.

WITH MY BILL, EACH OF THE COASTAL STATES WOULD BE IN LINE FOR VERY LARGE SUMS OF MONEY.

AND BELIEVE ME, ALL OF THOSE STATE TREASURIES NEED FUNDS...URGENTLY.

WITH THIS ENORMOUS SOURCE OF REVENUE THERE FOR THE ASKING... THE POLITICAL BALANCE OF OFF-SHORE OIL DEVELOPMENT WILL BEGIN TO SHIFT.

EVERY EDUCATOR, SOCIAL SERVICE  
WORKER AND GROUPS THAT WANT THOSE DOLLARS  
TO MEET THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE IN THIS ECONOMIC  
DOWNTREND WILL SUPPORT THEIR GOVERNORS AND  
REPRESENTATIVES TO GO AFTER IT... RESPONSIBLY.

AND I UNDERSCORE THE WORD RESPONSIBLY  
BECAUSE IT CAN BE DONE THAT WAY AT THIS TIME.

WE ARE IN NEED...BUT WE ARE NOT YET  
FACED WITH PANIC.

WITH THE APPROACH I'VE OUTLINED, THE  
NATION WILL GET ITS OIL...AND NO ONE  
STATE WILL HAVE ITS ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT  
ABUSED.

AND THAT, TRULY, IS MY FEAR FOR ALASKA.

IF WE ARE VIEWED AS THE ONE AND ONLY  
SOLUTION FOR THE NATION'S ENERGY PROBLEMS,  
WE'LL FACE AN UNBELIEVEABLE IMPACT...AND  
NO ADDITIONAL INCOME TO BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT.

THE RESULT WILL BE HASTY LEASE SALES...  
AND VERY POSSIBLY...INCREASED TAXES ON  
LONG-TIME ALASKANS IN ORDER TO COPE WITH  
THE IMPACT OF THE TRANSIENTS.

THIS IS ALSO MY REASONING FOR WANTING  
TO GO SLOW ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PET 4.

I TOTALLY SUPPORT THE CURRENT PROGRAM  
OF EXPLORATORY DRILLING TO DETERMINE THE  
EXTENT OF THE RESOURCES IN THAT VAST AREA.

BUT TO BUILD ANOTHER PIPELINE AT  
THIS TIME WOULD BE TOO GREAT A STRAIN ON  
ALASKA.

IT MAKES MUCH MORE SENSE TO BUILD THE  
PIPELINES WE NEED IN SEQUENCE...ONE AFTER  
THE OTHER.

THEN THE 24,000 WORKERS ON THE CURRENT  
PROJECT CAN GO ON TO BUILD THE GAS LINE AND  
THEN...WHEN THAT IS COMPLETED...A SECOND  
OIL LINE.

THIS WAY THESE PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES  
WILL TAKE ROOT IN ALASKA AND FIND A COMMITMENT  
TO THE FUTURE OF OUR STATE.

IT'S THE BEST ANSWER I KNOW TO THE ROOM  
MENTALITY.

AND IT WILL ENSURE ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT  
OF OUR OIL AND GAS.

AS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF  
LEASING THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AREAS IN  
THE GULF OF ALASKA, MY MAIN CONCERN IS THE  
FISH AS THEY MIGRATE TO THE HIGH SEAS.

ALASKA'S FISHERMEN KEEP GETTING THE  
SHORT END OF THE STICK.

IT'S TIME WE SAID, " STOP!"

YOU MAY BE AWARE OF MY RECENT EXCHANGES  
WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON THEIR AGREEMENTS  
WITH THE JAPANESE.

BUT FOREIGN INTERESTS ARE NOT THE ONLY  
DANGERS WE HAVE TO LOOK OUT FOR.

AS TO OFFSHORE DRILLING, IT'S NOT THE  
RELATIVELY SMALL SPILLAGE OF OIL THAT  
CONCERNS ME.

IT'S THE NOISE FACTOR.

AND AS ANYONE WHO'S EVER THROWN A HOOK  
AND A LINE IN THE WATER IS WELL AWARE,  
MARINE LIFE IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO NOISE.

MIGRATION PATTERNS CAN BE AFFECTED BY IT.

AND THAT CAN DRAMATICALLY INFLUENCE THE  
JOBS AND LIVELIHOOD OF THOUSANDS OF ALASKANS.

I DO SUPPORT SOME LEASING AROUND  
YAKUTAT.

STUDIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE IN THAT  
REGION ON THE FISHERIES AND MIGRATION ROUTES  
OF THE HALIBUT AND OTHER SPECIES.

WE KNOW THE TIMING OF THE MIGRATION  
OF THE SPAWNING FISH AS THEY MOVE THROUGH.

WE KNOW THAT WE COULD STOP...OR SLOW  
DOWN....DRILLING DURING THAT PERIOD OF TIME.

BUT THESE FACTORS ARE NOT KNOWN IN THE  
GULF.

WE JUST DON'T HAVE THOSE ANSWERS YET.

AS TO THE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE, I HAVE  
ALWAYS FAVORED AN ALL-ALASKAN, ALL-AMERICAN  
GAS PIPELINE.

BUT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ONE POINT  
HERE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

LOUISIANA, THE LARGEST PRODUCER OF  
NATURAL GAS IN THE NATION, IS FACING A  
SHORTAGE...AT THIS VERY TIME....OF NATURAL  
GAS FOR ITS OWN PEOPLE.

WE MUST NOT LET ALASKA FALL INTO  
THE SAME TRAP.

WE MUST GUARANTEE THAT OUR STATE RECEIVES  
ITS SHARE OF THE GAS FROM THE NORTH SLOPE....  
WHENEVER AND WHEREVER WE WANT IT.

IN MY OPINION, THE GAS ITSELF IS  
MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR STATE AND OUR PEOPLE  
THAN THE MONEY....OR EVEN THE OIL.

IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT OFFERS A  
SOLUTION TO THE ICE FOG PROBLEM IN FAIRBANKS..

...THE SHORTAGE OF FERTILIZERS AND HEAT WE  
NEED FOR OUR BUDDING AND VASTLY POTENTIAL  
AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY....

....AND THE HIGH COST OF CHEMICAL BY-PRODUCTS  
THAT ALASKANS ARE NOW PAYING.

BUT GETTING THAT GAS ISN'T AS EASY  
AS IT MAY SEEM.

CURRENT F.P.C. REGULATIONS FORBID THE  
TAPPING OF GAS ONCE IT IS IN AN INTERSTATE  
GASLINE.

I BELIEVE THAT REGULATION WILL ONLY  
BE CHANGED BEFORE THE LINE IS BUILT.

AND IT'S GOING TO TAKE A COMBINED EFFORT  
ON THE PART OF ALASKAN PUBLIC OFFICIALS.

IT'S A BATTLE WE MUST FIGHT AND WIN.

WE ALSO NEED A UNIFIED FRONT WHEN IT  
COMES TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE D-2 LANDS.

AS YOU KNOW, THIS SESSION OF CONGRESS  
WILL BEGIN DEBATE ON THIS QUESTION....  
PROBABLY BEGINNING IN EARLY SUMMER.

MANY INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS HAVE  
EXPRESSED THEIR OPINIONS ON THE FUTURE OF  
THESE LANDS.

MOST OF THESE INDIVIDUALS, ALTHOUGH  
POSSIBLY DIFFERING IN VIEWPOINT, HAVE BEEN  
SINCERE IN THEIR MOTIVATIONS.

BUT THERE ARE TWO FORCES AT WORK THAT  
I DO NOT CONSIDER SINCERE....FORCES THAT  
ARE NOT INTERESTED IN WHAT'S BEST FOR  
THESE AREAS AND ALASKA...BUT WOULD USE THIS  
ISSUE FOR SPECIAL INTEREST PURPOSES.

THE FIRST OF THESE GROUPS IS THE  
POTENTIAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES THAT  
CURRENTLY RESIDE ON THE INTERIOR COMMITTEES  
OF BOTH THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE.

IN THE SENATE IS ALASKA'S GOOD FRIEND  
SENATOR HENRY JACKSON.

IN THE HOUSE IS ARIZONA'S MO UDALL.

BOTH OF THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE DESIGNS  
ON THE WHITE HOUSE.

THAT IS MOST CERTAINLY THEIR PEROGATIVE.

BUT BOTH OF THEM ARE PLAYING TO A STRONG  
ENVIRONMENTAL GALLERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE EASIEST WAY TO PLAY TO THAT  
SENTIMENT IS TO CALL FOR PRESERVATIONIST  
ACTIONS IN FAR-OFF AREAS THAT DON'T TOUCH  
THE LIVES OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF THEY SUCCEED IN LOCKING UP ALASKA, THEY WILL PLEASE THE FANTASIES OF MILLIONS OF VOTERS....

...AND RISK THE ILL-WILL OF ONLY ONE, SPARSELY-POPULATED STATE.

THIS, OF COURSE, IS POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY AND OPPORTUNISM.

WE MUST EXPOSE IT FOR WHAT IT IS.

THE SECOND FORCE WE MUST DEAL WITH ARE THOSE FEDERAL AGENCIES THAT ARE LAND HUNGRY FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES.

WE SAW AN EXAMPLE OF THIS FORCE AT WORK WHEN THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT SUBMITTED ITS RECOMMENDATIONS ON D-2.

THEY TOTALLY IGNORED THE EXTENSIVE, CAREFUL AND RESPONSIBLE WORK OF THE FEDERAL STATE LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION.

THIS BLATANT LAND-GRAB BY THE BUREAUCRACIES HAS MADE ME GIVE-STRONG CONSIDERATION TO TAKING ALASKA OUT OF THEIR HANDS ENTIRELY.

AFTER ALL, IN MANY WAYS THE CURRENT FOUR SYSTEMS...INTO WHICH THEY ARE TRYING TO CRAM SOME OF ALASKA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE...DO NOT CONFORM TO ALASKA'S CLIMATE, GEOGRAPHY OR ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS.

IN FACT, THE CASE CAN BE MADE, THAT THESE FOUR SYSTEMS HAVE BECOME OUT OF TOUCH WITH MODERN VALUES ANYWHERE IN AMERICA.

FOR THIS REASON, I AM TAKING A HARD LOOK AT THE CREATION OF A NEW AGENCY TO OVERSEE AND CARE FOR ALL OF ALASKA'S FEDERAL LANDS.

SUCH AN AGENCY COULD BE DESIGNED TO OUR OWN SPECIFIC NEEDS FOR BOTH CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION.

IT WOULD AVOID THE MANAGEMENT NIGHTMARE THAT THE PRESENT PLAN WOULD IMPOSE ON US... AND IT WOULD ENABLE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO RELATE TO OUR UNIQUE ARCTIC AND SUB-ARCTIC PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES.

I WOULD CERTAINLY APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS IDEA.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD WITH REALISTIC EXPECTANCY TO THE PASSAGE OF A 200 MILE LIMIT BILL THIS SESSION.

IT'S CALLED H.R.200...AND IT ALREADY HAS SIGNATURES.

THIS WILL BE A GREAT STEP FORWARD FOR ALASKA'S FISHERIES.

I SINCERELY HOPE YOU WILE BACK UP THIS BREAKTHROUGH WITH THE DEDICATION OF A SIZEABLE PERCENTAGE OF OUR OIL AND GAS REVENUES TO THE RESTORATION OF OUR FISH AND TIMBER RESOURCES.

IN CONCLUSION, ALASKA SHOULD NOT CARRY ALL THE BURDEN ON ITS SHOULDERS OF SOLVING THE NATION'S ENERGY CRISIS.

AND THAT SHARE OF THE BURDEN WE DO CARRY SHOULD BE REWARDED WITH AT LEAST SUFFICIENT REVENUES TO HANDLE THE IMPACT.

LET'S KEEP OUR HEADS IN THIS TIME OF OPPORTUNITY.

LET'S NOT GET CARRIED AWAY BY THIS RUSH FOR OUR RESOURCES.

WE CAN AVOID BEING FOOLISH....WITHOUT BEING SELFISH.

IF WE CAN BE CAREFUL DURING THE NEXT TWO YEARS IN TERMS OF OUR OWN SPENDING, WE ARE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT AS A STATE.

FORTUNATELY, WE'LL NEVER BE A DEPRESSED AREA.

WE MUST BE BIG ENOUGH TO REALIZE THAT WE CAN'T IGNORE THE NEEDS OF THE REST OF THE STATES OF THIS NATION.

AMERICA IS BESET WITH TRULY ENORMOUS CHALLENGES AT THIS TIME.

IF WE SHOW A RESPONSIBLE CONCERN, THEY WILL LISTEN TO OUR CONCERNS AS WELL.

THAT IS THE KEY TO A PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR OUR STATE.

THANK YOU.