IN THE HOUSE

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Relating to Native representation on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

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

WHEREAS there is no direct representation of rural Alaska village communities on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and

WHEREAS the Native Alaskan village communities have a direct relationship to the Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS the bipartite relationship pre-dates any and all power vested in the states represented on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council; and

WHEREAS the food energy chain on which these rural village communities depend is being drastically disrupted by the allocation of these resources to foreign nations; and

WHEREAS certain members of the Council, namely the representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the State of Alaska, have not freely communicated information to the rest of the members of the Council until the closing minutes of the meeting; and

WHEREAS the Council through the offices of its chairman, has limited United States citizen input to ten minutes of testimony while allowing foreign nationals unlimited testimony time before the Council; and

WHEREAS strong evidence is emerging that the Council, without holding adequate hearings, is rubber stamping policies that have already been set by Congress and without holding adequate hearings as mandated by the sovereignty of the citizens of our country over the resources within the extended jurisdiction of the United States to the 200 mile limit is being undermined by the present actions of the Council in its frivolous
and hasty allocations of these food energy resources to foreign multi-national interests; and

WHEREAS it has been stated in testimony and not denied by the Council that these resources can be efficiently harvested and processed by present domestic industries; and

WHEREAS the severe and continuing climatic conditions affecting the continental United States is seriously curtailing its national food energy resources, thereby putting more dependence on the food energy resources from the sea; and

WHEREAS our national interest and sovereign dignity is being severely undermined by the actions of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests Congress to take immediate action to hold in abeyance all recommendations by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and any policy decisions by the Secretary of Commerce acting under the provisions of the Fishery Management and Conservation Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-265) until proper and deliberative hearings are held; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the enforcement of the provisions of P.L. 94-265 be delayed until the Native villages of Alaska have proper representation in the formulation of the management policies and allocation of resources under the Act so that the commitment by Congress and the administration's trustee responsibility to these villages is maintained. In order that the people's enjoyment of the living resources in these villages be assured, COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States; the Honorable Juanita Kreps, Secretary of the Department of Commerce; the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, President of the Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives; 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.

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