

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVES THOMPSON, Johnston, Knopp, Kopp, Johnson, Reinbold, Rauscher, Wilson,
Talerico, Chenault, Millett, Birch, Tilton**

Introduced: 4/28/17

Referred:

A RESOLUTION

Urging the Trump Administration to reverse federal government restrictions that adversely affect the ability to access and develop hydrocarbon- and mineral-rich portions of the outer continental shelf and to support responsible resource development of the outer continental shelf, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska; urging the United States Congress to assist in the development of the outer continental shelf adjacent to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska and to share the revenue generated from federal land; and stating the intention to use part of the revenue from federal land to build the necessary infrastructure to support the development and preserve the environmental integrity of the federal land in the outer continental shelf adjacent to the state.

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

WHEREAS the state contains a world-class hydrocarbon basin holding over 30

1 percent of the nation's technically recoverable oil and gas resources, has a rich history of
2 developing its resources in a sustainable and responsible manner and can demonstrate its
3 history of safely developing its mining, fishing, timber, and oil and gas resources, and has
4 benefited from over half a century of experience in managing the sustainable and responsible
5 development of the Arctic; and

6 **WHEREAS** it is in the best interests of the state to continue the safe and responsible
7 development of resources in and adjacent to the state; and

8 **WHEREAS** the federal government has limited immediate opportunities for
9 development in several areas of the Arctic, including, most importantly, the Arctic outer
10 continental shelf, the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and the National
11 Petroleum Reserve - Alaska, which are estimated to contain up to 35,000,000,000 barrels of
12 oil and over 150,000,000,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas and are critical to extending the
13 life of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System, and the federal government has excluded the state
14 when sharing federal revenue generated by oil and gas activity off the coast of the state; and

15 **WHEREAS** sensible development of those resources could generate an aggregate of
16 more than 790,000 jobs and over \$633,000,000,000 in public revenue; and

17 **WHEREAS** oil and gas and mineral exploration and development of the outer
18 continental shelf adjacent to the state, the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
19 and adjacent land, and the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska could result in major
20 discoveries that would reduce the nation's dependency on resources produced by hostile
21 foreign nations, help balance the trade deficit, and significantly increase the security of the
22 nation; and

23 **WHEREAS** economic activity throughout the state and the nation is threatened by
24 federal actions that restrict access, limit due process, and impose onerous restrictions on
25 projects before any permit applications are filed and analyzed under the National
26 Environmental Policy Act; and

27 **WHEREAS** the state recognizes that the economic prosperity of the state is dependent
28 on available, reliable, and affordable energy and continues to express its support for oil and
29 gas activity on state land and in adjacent federal water;

30 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature vehemently opposes previous
31 and any further attempts by the federal government to restrict access to federal water and land

1 in the state, including in the Beaufort Sea Planning Area, the Chukchi Sea Planning Area, the
2 coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and the National Petroleum Reserve -
3 Alaska; and be it

4 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Trump
5 Administration to reverse federal government restrictions that adversely affect the ability to
6 access and develop hydrocarbon- and mineral-rich portions of the Arctic National Wildlife
7 Refuge, the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska, and the outer continental shelf adjacent to
8 the state, including the Beaufort Sea Planning Area and the Chukchi Sea Planning Area, to
9 provide access to these areas for responsible resource development, to acknowledge the
10 support of state residents, and to ensure the federal government exercises due process in
11 rendering decisions about proposed economic development projects; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States
13 Congress to take all necessary actions to assist the Trump Administration in providing access
14 to and development of hydrocarbon- and mineral-rich portions of the Arctic National Wildlife
15 Refuge, the National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska, and the outer continental shelf adjacent to
16 the state and to provide a means to consistently and equitably share, to the maximum extent
17 possible, the revenue generated from the development of the outer continental shelf adjacent
18 to the state with all of the revenue directed to the state for disposition as the Alaska State
19 Legislature and the governor consider appropriate to ensure the state develops the necessary
20 infrastructure to support outer continental shelf development and to preserve environmental
21 integrity.

22 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President
23 of the United States; the Honorable Michael R. Pence, Vice President of the United States and
24 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Paul D. Ryan, Speaker of the U.S. House of
25 Representatives; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of
26 Representatives; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the
27 Honorable Charles E. Schumer, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Ryan
28 Zinke, United States Secretary of the Interior; Jim Kurth, acting Director of the U.S. Fish and
29 Wildlife Service; Margaret N. Schneider, acting Director of the Bureau of Safety and
30 Environmental Enforcement; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan
31 Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the

1 Alaska delegation in Congress.