

Introduced by: Legislative Cmte.
Date: April 17, 1990
Action: Adopted
Vote: Unanimous

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 90-39

(COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

SUPPORTING INCLUSION OF LANGUAGE IN PENDING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE DOUBLE BOTTOMS AND HULLS IN OIL TANKERS

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Kenai Peninsula Borough enjoy a diverse economic base that is dependent on a healthy marine environment and a diverse local maritime industry including fisheries, tourism, and crude oil tanker traffic in Cook Inlet; and

WHEREAS, on average, there are in excess of 171 oil tanker port calls in Cook Inlet per year and that almost all of these tankers are less than 100,000 DWT and do not have double bottoms; and

WHEREAS, over the past ten years there have been 19 "tanker induced" oil spills in Cook Inlet with spill volumes, in some cases, exceeding 220,000 gallons and that the largest of these spills resulted from ship groundings; and

WHEREAS, recent reports from the Office of Technology Assessment and the Alaska Oil Spill Commission agree that spill prevention measures are a critical component of oil spill regulations; and

WHEREAS, the use of double bottoms and double hulls on oil tankers greatly reduces the likelihood of oil discharge from a tanker in a minor grounding or collision;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That in order to provide long term protection of Alaskan waters, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly strongly supports the inclusion of language in pending oil spill legislation that would require aggressive implementation of double bottoms and double hulls in oil tankers that trade in American waters.

Section 2. That in order to provide interim protection for Alaskan waters, and particularly Cook Inlet, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports at a minimum double hull construction for all new tankers and Sec. 4119(c)(2) of HR 1465 which requires double bottoms on all existing tankers within seven years.

Section 3. That copies of this resolution shall be sent to U. S. Senators Ted Stevens, Frank Murkowski, George Mitchell, Brock Adams and U.S. Congressmen Don Young, Walter Jones and Bill Tauzin; State Senators Paul Fischer, Jay Kerttula, Mike Szymanski and John Binkley, Representatives Mike Navarre, C. E. Swackhammer, Gene Kubina, and Jim Zawacki.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 17th DAY OF April, 1990.

ATTEST:


Borough Clerk


James W. Skogstad, Assembly President