

S. 1456. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Play Hard*, and for other purposes.

S. 1457. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Shogun*, and for other purposes.

S. 1545. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Moonraker*, and for other purposes.

S. 1566. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Marsh Grass Too*.

S. 1588. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation and coastwise trade endorsement for the vessel *Kalypso*.

S. 1631. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Extreme*, and for other purposes.

The following reports of committees were submitted on July 29, 1996:

By Mr. CHAFEE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1873. A bill to amend the National Environmental Education Act to extend the programs under the Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-336).

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1718. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-337).

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1834. A bill to reauthorize the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-338).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 1998. A bill to provide for expedited negotiations between the Secretary of the Interior and the villages of Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc., Ninilichik Native Association, Inc., Seldovia Native Association, Inc., Tyonek Native Corporation and Knikatnu, Inc. regarding the conveyances of certain lands in Alaska Under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. NICKLES (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. HELMS, Mr. COATS, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. LOTT, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GREGG, Mr. KYL, Mr. BURNS, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. GORTON):

S. 1999. A bill to define and protect the institution marriage; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ROTH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 285. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of State should make improvements in Cambodia's record on human rights, the environment, narcotics trafficking and the Royal Government of Cambodia's conduct among the primary objectives in our bilateral relations with Cambodia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MOYNIHAN:

S. Con. Res. 67. A concurrent resolution to authorize printing of the report of the Commission on Protecting and Reducing Government Secrecy; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 1998. A bill to provide for expedited negotiations between the Secretary of the Interior and the villages of Chickaloon-Moose Creek Native Association, Inc., Ninilichik Native Association, Inc., Seldovia Native Association, Inc., Tyonek Native Corp., and Knikatnu, Inc. regarding the conveyances of certain lands in Alaska Under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT AMENDMENT ACT OF 1996

• Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation on behalf of myself and Senator STEVENS. This legislation is intended to help facilitate a settlement regarding a complex land dispute between five Native Alaskan villages and the Department of the Interior.

Mr. President, the villages of Chickaloon-Moose Creek, Ninilichik, Selovia, Tyonek, and Knikatnu selected lands over 20 years ago pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANSCA) along the shores of what would later become Lake Clark National Park and on the western coast of Cook Inlet. These five villages later relinquished many of their original selections so that the Department could consolidate their holdings and preserve valuable lake frontage to create the Lake Clark National Park in 1980. Without the relinquishment of the village's original land selections Lake Clark National Park may never have become a reality.

In return for the relinquishment of their original selections, the villages were offered other lands on the western coast of Cook Inlet. Because there were five villages, the DOI worked with the villages to create different "rounds" of selections. This process would ensure that no one village would receive all the high or low priority selections being offered in the new lands. These

rounds were similar to the way the NFL conducts its draft.

After the villages made their selections, with the assistance of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the selections were then rejected by the BLM because they were not "compact and contiguous" as required by ANSCA. This resulted in a deficiency conveyance agreement which divided the village selections in Cook Inlet into two appendices—appendix A, and appendix C. When the villages signed their agreement they were continuously assured by the BLM that their selection rounds would remain intact thereby preserving their highest priority land selections. Indeed, correspondence over the years from the Department of the Interior indicates that this was the case.

However, now the DOI claims that none of the appendix C lands could be transferred until all appendix A lands have been conveyed. If allowed to continue this would result in the Native villages not receiving their priority selections under ANSCA.

It is ironic that it was village corporations who gave up their selections so that the Department could create Lake Clark National Park and now the DOI is blocking the villages right to select lands they originally assisted in selecting by saying it would threaten Lake Clark National Park.

The legislation I am introducing today is a fair compromise to this problem. In short the legislation would:

Require the Secretary to enter into expedited negotiations with the village corporations for the purpose of resolving their remaining land entitlement issues with either the lands in dispute or other lands in Alaska;

For any village with which the Secretary reaches agreement he must implement the agreement within 90 days and the issue is then resolved;

For any of the villages with which the Secretary fails to reach agreement within 180 days, the Secretary must convey to that village 50 percent of the lands they selected, in the order of their selection by priority rounds;

For any of the five villages that still have remaining acreage in their land entitlements, the Secretary must continue to negotiate with them and report back to Congress on the status of these negotiations;

Lastly, the legislation will preserve the village's right to pursue the issue through the judicial system.

Mr. President, this legislation is fair and balanced. Each of the two parties involved have the opportunity to resolve the issue in an amicable way where both can walk away with positive results. Failing to accomplish this, each party then only gets half of what they want.

I would like to point out that, regardless of the rhetoric coming from opponents of this legislation, these selected lands are not part of Lake Clark National Park.