Fact Sheet for: Senate Joint Resolution 2

Short Title: ENDORSING ANWR LEASING

Summary:

- Urges the U.S. Congress to pass legislation that opens the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil exploration in an environmentally sensitive way that protects the Porcupine Caribou herd and maximizes the use of Alaska's workforce.
- Opposes any unilateral effort to reduce Alaska's share of the royalty revenue from ANWR or any effort to coerce the state into accepting less than 90 percent of its royalty revenues from oil, gas or minerals from federal land in Alaska.

Benefits:

- Reduces America's dependence on foreign oil.
- Creates new jobs and protects existing oil industry jobs in Alaska and the rest of the United States.
- Halts the steady decline in North Slope oil production.
- Would extend the useful physical life of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System, a national asset that would cost billions of dollars to replace.

Background:

- This resolution is part of the ongoing effort in the Alaska Legislature, the U.S. Congress and the Bush administration to strengthen America's national security by reducing its dependence on foreign oil. The resolution also sends a clear message that Alaskans support safe, sustainable oil development in ANWR.