

SPONSOR STATEMENT –HJR 6.

This resolution opposes the inclusion of national forests in Alaska within former President Clinton’s Roadless Area Conservation rule.

On January 5, 2001, shortly before leaving office, former President Clinton announced the final Record of Decision for the Roadless Rule including the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

Alaskans from across this state must join forces to overturn the inclusion of Alaska forests within former President Clinton’s Roadless Rule.

This presidential action is an affront to all Alaskans and continues the federal government’s history of breaking promises to Alaskans regarding land management.

This Roadless Rule is in blatant disregard of the processes that have been agreed to. Countless hours, over eleven years and 13 million dollars were spent making revisions to the Tongass Land Management Plan. The Chugach Forest Plan revision process has been underway for over three years requiring considerable investment of time money and resources. Now these processes have been completely disregarded

This Roadless Rule violates the “no-more” clauses of ANILCA and creates approximately 15 million acres of new defacto wilderness within Alaska.

I, like many Alaskans, am vehemently opposed to the inclusion of the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in this Roadless Rule and ask that we work together and support the overturning of this inclusion by litigation, by congressional action or by action of President Bush.