

Facts in Brief on Arctic Research Bill

Proposed Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1981, Senate Bill 1562

Sponsors: Alaska Senators Frank Murkowski and Ted Stevens and Washington Sen. Henry "Scoop" Jackson

Main Goals:

- 1) Commit the U.S. to increased Arctic research for the benefit of defense, environmental preservation and resource development.
- 2) Organize this research through a national Arctic Research policy directed by an Arctic Research Council.

Mechanics:

- 1) Arctic research would be funded at 1 percent of the federal revenues from the sale or lease of federal land on the North Slope of Alaska
- 2) Arctic Research Council would develop and implement a National Arctic Research Policy with input from an Advisory Committee. The Arctic Research Council would include: Secretary of the Interior, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Commerce and the Governor

of Alaska as an ex officio member. The Advisory Committee would be comprised of scientists, representatives of industries operating in the Arctic and Arctic Native peoples.

- 3) An Arctic Research Center would be considered as a possible facility to support Arctic Research efforts. One of the sites proposed is NARL.

Congressional Status:

Under consideration by the Committee on Governmental Affairs, Sen. William Roth of Delaware, Chairman - public hearings recently conducted by the Committee in Alaska during the Congressional recess. Public comment presently being taken.

Send Comments to:

Committee on Governmental Affairs
3306 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sen. Ted Stevens and Sen. Frank Murkowski serve on this Committee.