

Budget Bureau Opposes Pollock's Bill for State Land Take Extension

Congressman Howard W. Pollock introduced HR 17874 in the U.S. House to extend the time for land selection by the state, which would mean an additional 15 years to the original 25 given the state within which to select 103 million acres.

The administration however, through the Bureau of the Budget, opposes Pollock's bill and has recommended an extension of only six months.

The state of Alaska has ten years to select 103 million acres of which 20 million acres have been withdrawn to date. Pollock said that it has taken the state almost ten years to select 20 million acres and that this ten years will expire on January 3, 1969, just four months away.

Hearing on the bill was held yesterday morning before the Public Land Subcommittee and the subcommittee reported the bill to full Interior Committee where it will be considered next Monday.

"Obviously," said Frank Albert, administrative assistant to Pollock, "in view of the major oil and mineral discoveries in northern Alaska, the Bureau of the Budget and the administration now want to review the 90 per cent-10 per cent state-federal revenue sharing formula and apply the 60-40 formula as in other states.

"Congressman Pollock," he continued, "said this would be

very detrimental to the orderly development of Alaska's natural resources and we are hopeful that we can prevail on the committee Monday to reject the administration's six months ex-

tension and accept a longer selection period."

Albert said that it was difficult for Pollock at this time because he is by himself now

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because Sen. E. L. Bartlett is in Europe and Sen. Ernest Gruening was not in Washington.

"Pollock will testify today as a first witness before the Senate Committee on this vital matter," said Frank Albert.