

Congressman Pollock Testifies Against Duty-free Foreign Trade Sub-zones

WASHINGTON—Representative Howard W. Pollock (R-Alaska) testified against establishing duty-free foreign trade sub-zones in three states when the Department of Commerce held hearings January 8, 1969, on applications to set up these zones.

Hawaii, Maine and Georgia each have applied to have such zones set up within their boundaries.

Foreign crude oil can be imported through subzones at substantially lower per barrel cost than comparative domestic oil.

Because oil from foreign zone vessels, crude oil from Alaskan fields—which must be moved in domestic tankers—generally is more costly.

On December 5 last year, the State of Alaska brought suit in United States district court in

(Continued on page 6)

Testifies . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Anchorage challenging the jurisdiction of the foreign trade zone board and Secretary of Interior to grant applications for the foreign trade sub-zone.

Concern has been voiced that the availability of an increasing supply of lower cost foreign crude oil coupled with higher production costs in Alaska could slow exploration and development of the state's oil resources.

"These applications to establish foreign trade sub-zones for transporting crude oil marks still another instance of Alaskans being effectively prohibited from competing in trade by our own laws," Pollock stated.