

Crockett, and the National Rifle Association, are all supportive of this resolution, as are every Fish and Wildlife Service State agency, including from New Mexico, including from New Jersey. They are all supportive of our resolution.

To have our colleagues come down here and say “Those Alaskans don’t know what they are doing” when we have the record of well-managed fish and game, awards every year from the Department of the Interior and others—to have them come down here with very little knowledge of my State is not the humility that I think is needed in this body.

So I ask all my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution. It is backed by law. It is backed by millions of Americans in every State. It is very important to the people of Alaska, particularly those who live a subsistence lifestyle.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. President, I yield back the time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority time is yielded back.

All time is yielded back.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 92 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Alexander	Flake	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Portman
Blunt	Graham	Risch
Boozman	Grassley	Roberts
Burr	Hatch	Rounds
Capito	Heller	Rubio
Cassidy	Hoeven	Sasse
Cochran	Inhofe	Scott
Collins	Johnson	Shelby
Corker	Kennedy	Strange
Cornyn	King	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	McCain	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Enzi	Moran	Young
Ernst	Murkowski	
Fischer	Paul	

NAYS—47

Baldwin	Coons	Hassan
Bennet	Cortez Masto	Heinrich
Blumenthal	Donnelly	Heitkamp
Booker	Duckworth	Hirono
Brown	Durbin	Kaine
Cantwell	Feinstein	Klobuchar
Cardin	Franken	Leahy
Carper	Gillibrand	Manchin
Casey	Harris	Markey

McCaskill	Reed	Udall
Menendez	Sanders	Van Hollen
Merkley	Schatz	Warner
Murphy	Schumer	Warren
Murray	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Nelson	Stabenow	Wyden
Peters	Tester	

NOT VOTING—1

Isakson

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 69) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT
RESOLUTION

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I want to mention that I am very gratified by my colleagues—by the way, on both sides of the aisle. It was a bipartisan vote. H.J. Res. 69, as the Presiding Officer just mentioned, has passed the Senate and will soon be going to the White House for a signature by President Trump. That is a resolution—now a law—that will be heading to the White House. It is not just important for Alaska, but, as the Presiding Officer and I were talking about, for any American who believes in federalism, State control over our land, and the Tenth Amendment. That is what was at stake.

For my State a lot more was at stake—subsistence rights, the ability to continue to hunt in the ways that we have been doing for generations in Alaska. So I just want to thank all the Alaskans—hundreds—including the State of Alaska Board of Game, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, our Governor and his attorney general, who filed suit against the Federal Government over this issue. Obviously, it is all going to be resolved right now, right here, because of this vote.

I want to thank all the Alaskans who played such an important role, the groups that I talked about in my remarks outside of Alaska that represent millions of Americans—the conservationists, the people who love the outdoors, and hunters who also weighed in and in a very powerful way to make sure that this resolution passed. So I want to thank them all.

ELECTION IN ECUADOR

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, article 2 of chapter I of the Charter of the Organization of American States, of which Ecuador is a party, states that one of the OAS’s purposes is “to promote and consolidate representative democracy, with due respect for the principle of nonintervention.”

I mention this because the second round of Ecuador’s Presidential election is scheduled for April 2, less than 2 weeks away. In the first round, Lenin Moreno, who is supported by outgoing President Correa, received 39 percent and his opponent, Guillermo Lasso, received 28 percent, so it is a hotly contested election.

But democracy is about more than elections. There is no institution more fundamental to democracy than a free and independent press. A free press helps protect the rule of law, to ensure that no person or group is above the rules and procedures that govern a democratic society. A free press helps ensure transparency to prod governments to be honest and accountable to their citizens.

Although wavering at times, Ecuador has a history of democratic government of which its citizens can be proud. It has a long tradition of recognizing the importance of freedom of the press. Ecuador’s first constitution, written in 1830, stipulated that “every citizen can express their thoughts and publish them freely through the press.” Ecuador’s 1998 constitution guaranteed the right of journalists and social communicators to “seek, receive, learn, and disseminate” events of general interest, with the goal of “preserving the values of the community.” Even Ecuador’s current constitution protects the right “to voice one’s opinion and express one’s thinking freely and in all of its forms and manifestations,” and the right to “associate, assemble and express oneself freely and voluntarily.”

Yet, since President Correa was first elected, freedom of the press has been under assault. He has called the independent press his “greatest enemy.” He sought to intimidate and silence his critics in the media and civil society, like Janet Hinostroza, El Universo, Vanguardia, El Comercio, Xavier Bonilla, and Fundamedios. He publicly vilified Dr. Catalina Botero, a respected Colombian lawyer and former OAS Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression. He pursued criminal charges against columnists and newspaper owners who had criticized his policies. During this period, the number of state-owned media organizations exploded, growing from just one government-run news outlet to a media conglomerate that today is made up of more than a dozen outlets echoing the government’s self-serving declarations. These actions are a threat to democracy, and they damaged relations with the United States.

On April 2, when the people of Ecuador elect their next President, they alone will decide Ecuador’s future. What is important at this stage is to ensure that the electoral process is free and fair, that the press can participate freely, and that the election is open to international observers, including the OAS.

Whoever wins on April 2, I hope Ecuador’s next President is someone who genuinely believes in the freedoms of