CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29(TRA) am

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Amended: 3/21/96
Offered: 3/11/96

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES WILLIAMS, Kubina

A RESOLUTION

1 Providing for a contest among the elementary school students of Alaska to name
2 the new ferry of the Alaska marine highway system.
3
4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
5
6    WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature approved a ballot initiative to create the
7    Alaska marine highway in 1960; and
8    WHEREAS the people of the State of Alaska approved the initiative, thus creating the
9    Alaska marine highway system; and
10    WHEREAS the Alaska marine highway system began service in 1963 to meet the
11    transportation needs of the state; and
12    WHEREAS today the Alaska marine highway system employs over 860 Alaska
13    citizens from 37 different communities; and
14    WHEREAS the Alaska marine highway system directly or indirectly accounts for over
15    1,290 jobs in the state; and
16    WHEREAS the state economy realized a 590 percent return on the state’s 1994
17    general fund investment in the Alaska marine highway system; and
18    WHEREAS the Alaska marine highway fleet includes eight ships serving 34 ports,
WHEREAS the Alaska marine highway system provides important economic, social, and cultural links between communities in Alaska; and
WHEREAS the maritime vessels of the Alaska marine highway system are, by law, to be named after glaciers in the state; and
WHEREAS researching glaciers will give elementary school students of Alaska an opportunity to learn the geography of the state; and
WHEREAS the above exercise will enhance the students’ understanding of the role of the Alaska marine highway system in the state’s interdependent transportation system; and
WHEREAS the Alaska marine highway system will christen a new ocean-going vessel in 1998;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the governor to direct the commissioner of transportation and public facilities to establish an impartial panel to select potential names for the new vessel from among the names of glaciers submitted by elementary students and forward its recommendations to the legislature; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the elementary students of the state to submit their favorite glacier name to the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature will decide which of these recommendations will be used to name the new Alaska marine highway system vessel; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the governor to provide a free ride on the inaugural voyage of the new vessel to the student who submits the name that is selected by the legislature as the name for the new vessel.