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ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE DISTRICT 29



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Sponsor Statement House Joint Resolution 42

Alaska plays an indispensable role in America's national defense, hosting critical radar systems, missile defense assets, and Arctic infrastructure that safeguard the continental United States and our Canadian neighbors. In an era of strategic competition in the Arctic, reliable year-round surface logistics and freight transport are essential for defense readiness, economic resilience, and everyday affordability for our state.

HJR 42 supports the Northern Continental Corridor concept which is a proposed overland transportation and logistics route that would enhance our state's redundancy, bulk freight capacity, and year-round access to support everything from toilet paper delivery to Arctic development, to supporting Department of Defense installations, to long term sustainment needs. This proposed project relies solely on publicly available data, historical studies, government filings, and recognized modeling benchmarks from previous attempts to make this a reality. This project aligns with U.S. defense, industrial, and Arctic policy goals. It also recognizes the unique challenges of Alaskan life and would give our citizens more options in moving goods in and out of state.

Key benefits of this project would be job creation through construction and long-term operational employment, complement our existing freight trucking and marine infrastructure, and improve affordability for Alaskans through more reliable, lower-cost surface transport of groceries, construction materials,

industrial inputs, and providing an alternative for Alaskan businesses to bring goods in that can only currently be brought in by air or barge.

This concept still needs planning and international coordination. However, recognizing the current growth in DoD funding, emphasis on Arctic defense and infrastructure development, and the increasing costs of moving anything to this state, we should push forward on this concept. HJR 42 is a forward-looking resolution that positions Alaska as a key contributor to America's defense and economic future. Passing this resolution would advance national security, strengthen our Arctic posture as a state and nation, support Alaskan business, and deliver meaningful economic stimulus to our citizens.

By passing this resolution, the Alaska Legislature sends a clear and bipartisan message: Alaska stands ready to work with our federal partners to examine ideas that strengthen national defense, improve logistics resilience, and support long term economic opportunity.

For any questions, please contact my office at 907-465-6600