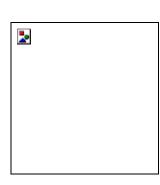
STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2010

Source <u>HJR 46</u> Legislative Resolve No.



Urging Congressional support for the reauthorization of the Denali Commission.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS, since 1999, the Denali Commission has promoted rural development by providing economic, infrastructure, job training, and health care support in rural communities, with minimal overhead and administrative costs; and

WHEREAS the Denali Commission has invested approximately \$1,000,000,000 to improve the infrastructure and sustainability of rural Alaska communities, which has complemented the state's investment of approximately \$2,000,000,000 for those purposes; and

WHEREAS the Denali Commission has proven to be an effective catalyst for federal and state efforts to improve rural infrastructure, including transmission facilities, communication systems, bulk fuel facilities, power system upgrades, primary care clinics and other health facilities, housing, washeterias, solid waste facilities, and rural transportation improvements; and

WHEREAS the Denali Commission has trained construction and health care workers for careers in their communities and regions, and has promoted economic development and sustainability through effective interagency coordination; and

WHEREAS the Denali Commission has served Alaska well for over a decade in meeting its intended purposes and therefore merits continued funding and authorization; and

WHEREAS the Bush Caucus recognizes the importance of the state's role as a cochair of the Denali Commission and will urge the legislature to continue to provide matching funds for Denali Commission projects; and

WHEREAS President Obama's Administration has recognized the importance of the Denali Commission with a base appropriation of \$11,965,000 a year in the federal fiscal year 2010 and 2011 budgets;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the valuable work of the Denali Commission and supports the reauthorization of the commission for an additional five years; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the United States Congress to provide the necessary funding for the ongoing development and operation of the Denali Commission.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable John Boehner, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Gary F. Locke, United States Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable Raymond L. LaHood, United States Secretary of Transportation; the Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, United States Secretary of Health and Human Services; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.