



Alaska State Legislature

1969

Source:

HR 29

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 29

Requesting an amendment to the Jones Act to exempt the ferry vessel M. V. WICKERSHAM from several of its provisions.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

WHEREAS the State of Alaska has established, at its own instigation and expense, a modern marine highway system connecting Alaska and the 48 contiguous states through the Port of Seattle; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Marine Highway System was devised and is operated to take the place of a highway because of the impossibility of actual road building in Southeastern Alaska; and

WHEREAS there is a tremendous movement in commerce, trade and tourism between the South 48 states and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, to better handle all of the traffic, the Alaska Marine Highway System purchased a foreign-bottomed vessel, the M. V. WICKERSHAM; and

WHEREAS, due to the provisions of the Jones Act, the vessel is prohibited from transporting passengers and vehicles between U. S. ports, thus creating a burden on the residents of the state, on the flow of commerce and on the visitors to Alaska; and

WHEREAS, for the continued effective operation of the Alaska Marine Highway System, it is necessary that the M. V. WICKERSHAM be exempted from certain provisions of the Jones Act;

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Sixth Alaska Legislature that the United States Congress is respectfully urged to amend the Jones Act to allow the transportation of vehicles and passengers between United States ports on the M. V. WICKERSHAM.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard B. Russell, President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable Harley O. Staggers, Chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee; the Honorable Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.