



# Alaska State Legislature

1970

Source:

SR 14

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 14

Relating to an evaluation of the proposed Iniskin Bay-Iliamna route across the Alaska Peninsula.

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### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

WHEREAS it is of the utmost importance to the state that, where public highways cross wilderness areas, careful consideration and evaluation be given to their effect on the surrounding environment; and

WHEREAS studies have been made of various highway routes from a ferry facility on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula to the Bristol Bay area; and

WHEREAS the Iniskin Bay-Iliamna Lake route, tentatively selected by the state, requires extensive work at non-ice free Iniskin Bay to provide satisfactory harbor facilities; and

WHEREAS almost 200 miles of road and a great number of bridges would be required to connect such a ferry terminal to the Bristol Bay tidewater; and

WHEREAS the route presently being considered traverses much prime big game habitat as well as most of the principal spawning streams comprising the most important red salmon spawning area in the world; and

WHEREAS, historically, big game habitat and spawning streams readily accessible to highways have been seriously harmed by such proximity; and

WHEREAS there exists an alternate route through Katmai National Monument of less than half the required road and bridge

nstruction, which would go to King Salmon from either one of  
o excellent harbors on the Pacific; and

WHEREAS those most familiar with the alternate route agree  
at the Katmai route could be constructed at less expense than  
e \$34,000,000 estimated for the Iniskin-Iliamna route, with  
r less potential damage to the renewable resources; and

WHEREAS this route would make accessible one of the finest  
urist attractions in the State of Alaska and could directly  
ntribute significantly to the economic well-being of Bristol  
y years prior to the estimated completion date of the Iniskin-  
Iliamna route; and

WHEREAS opposition to the Katmai route from uninformed  
rganizations and persons as to the relative benefits and ill  
ffects of the respective routes has prompted U. S. Park Service  
osition; and

WHEREAS this opposition has resulted in the state currently  
working the Iliamna route;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested  
o direct the Department of Highways to make comparative cost  
timates of a route through Katmai National Monument and an  
iskin-Iliamna route; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Fish and Game be  
irected to compile all available data as to the respective renew-  
le resource occurrences along both routes and to make this data  
ailable to the Legislature prior to the commitment of funds  
r either route.