

STATE OF ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1977

Source

HR 9

House
Resolve No.

9



Requesting the President to direct the creation of a utility corridor for the extension of the Alaska Railroad to the Canadian border.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

WHEREAS it is essential that transportation links be developed if Alaska, and especially interior Alaska, is ever to attain its full potential; and

WHEREAS, traditionally, railroad systems have been in the forefront of the development of new territories, no matter where they have existed in the world; and

WHEREAS the Yukon Territory is in the same position as Alaska in that transportation systems are needed to aid further development; and

WHEREAS it would seem logical and proper that the Alaska Railroad should connect with the Canadian railway system at some strategically located point; and

WHEREAS such a transportation linkup would be of vast benefit to Alaska, the Nation and to the Yukon; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Railroad has in its enabling Act, The Alaska Railroad Act (43 U.S.C. 975 - 975(g)) authority to extend its track up to 1,000 miles in length; and

WHEREAS the proposed railroad extension would pass through land of diverse ownership -- 62 per cent state selected, 18 per cent Native selected, and 20 per cent federal public domain; and

WHEREAS the proposed railroad extension closely parallels an existing highway for 80 per cent of its length; and

WHEREAS sec. 501(a) of P.L. 94-579 of October 21, 1976 authorizes the establishment of rights-of-way by the Secretary of the Interior over public domain land;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State House of Representatives respectfully requests the President of the United States to direct the Secretary of the Interior to reserve the necessary rights-of-way in any land conveyances for the extension of the Alaska Railroad along a utility corridor to the Canadian border.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States; the Honorable Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Brock Adams, Secretary of Transportation; the Honorable Curt Berkland, Director of the Bureau of Land Management; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.