

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 160(TRA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/30/99
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to acquisition of federal land or federal property by the Alaska
2 Railroad Corporation; establishing a passenger surcharge on persons transported
3 by the Alaska Railroad; and providing for an effective date."

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** AS 42.40.285 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 42.40.285. Legislative approval required.** Unless the legislature
7 approves the action by law, the corporation may not

8 (1) exchange, donate, sell, or otherwise convey its entire interest in
9 land;

10 (2) issue bonds;

11 (3) extend railroad lines; this paragraph does not apply to a spur,
12 industrial, team, switching, or side track;

13 (4) lease land for a period in excess of 35 years unless the corporation
14 reserves the right to terminate the lease if the land is needed for railroad purposes;

1 **(5) apply for or accept a grant of federal land or federal property**
2 **within a municipality; before approving an action under this paragraph, the**
3 **legislature must determine that the federal land or federal property is required**
4 **for essential railroad purposes.**

5 * **Sec. 2.** AS 42.40.410 is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 42.40.410. Federal land.** **Except as provided in AS 42.40.285(5), the**
7 [THE] corporation may submit applications on its own behalf as an instrumentality of
8 the state for acquisition of federal land available under federal law that will enhance
9 the **essential railroad** operations of the corporation if it is available under a federal
10 law other than the Alaska Statehood Act of 1958 (P.L. 85 - 508, 72 Stat. 339), as
11 amended. The corporation may receive in its own name conveyances of all interests
12 in federal land.

13 * **Sec. 3.** AS 42.40 is amended by adding a new section to read:

14 **Sec. 42.40.915. Passenger surcharge.** For each passenger transported by the
15 Alaska Railroad, including passengers traveling in a privately owned, leased, or
16 operated railroad coach, the corporation shall collect a \$5 passenger surcharge. Each
17 month, the corporation shall transmit the amount of the passenger surcharge collected
18 under this section to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the general fund. The
19 amount of the passenger surcharge collected under this section is not revenue generated
20 by or appropriated to the corporation. The Department of Revenue and the legislative
21 auditor may review the accounts and records of the corporation as necessary to
22 determine compliance with this section.

23 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2000.