

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Introduced: 2/20/02

Referred: Transportation

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to reconstruction and paving of the Alaska Highway.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the United States and Canada have entered into an agreement to
4 reconstruct and pave the Alaska Highway from the Alaska-Canada border to Haines Junction,
5 Yukon Territory, Canada, and the Haines Cutoff Highway from Haines Junction, Yukon
6 Territory, Canada, to the Alaska-Canada border near Haines, Alaska, known as the Shakwak
7 Project, as authorized in the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1973; and

8 **WHEREAS** the Congress authorized \$59,000,000 in 1973 for the project and has
9 appropriated \$47,000,000 to the Federal Highway Administration for actual construction by
10 Canada; and

11 **WHEREAS** the Congress has further authorized \$20,000,000 a year for fiscal years
12 1993 - 1996 under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, which has
13 been fully appropriated; and

14 **WHEREAS** the Congress further authorized \$18,800,000 a year for fiscal years 1998
15 - 2002 under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, of which \$84,900,000 has
16 been appropriated; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in the last 21 years, the state has provided \$37,000,000 of state federal-
2 aid highway apportionments to assist in meeting the obligations of the agreement; and

3 **WHEREAS** the estimated amount necessary to complete the entire project was in the
4 order of \$260,000,000 in United States dollars;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the United
6 States government and the Canadian government to honor their agreement and provide the
7 additional funds necessary through direct federal appropriations, independent of the federal
8 funds apportioned to Alaska by the Federal Highway Administration, to complete the
9 remaining portions of the Shakwak project; and be it

10 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the United States Congress is respectfully requested to
11 immediately appropriate an additional \$45,000,000 to allow reconstruction of the remaining
12 18 miles of the Alaska Highway to a bituminous surface treatment standard and to replace
13 four bridges in order to meet the serviceability requirements of the highway.

14 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Right Honourable Jean Chretien, Prime
15 Minister of Canada; the Honourable Don Boudria, Minister of Public Works and Government
16 Services Canada; the Honourable Larry Bagnell, Member of Parliament, House of Commons,
17 Canada; the Honourable Pat Duncan, Premier, Yukon Territory, Canada; the Honourable
18 Dennis Schneider, Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Yukon Territory, Canada; the Honourable
19 Scott Kent, Minister of Infrastructure, Yukon Territory, Canada; the Honorable George W.
20 Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Richard B. Cheney, Vice-President of the
21 United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of
22 the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, United States Secretary
23 of Transportation; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,
24 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
25 delegation in Congress.