

HOUSE BILL NO. 432

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
 TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES SALMON, Foster

Introduced: 2/8/06

Referred: Transportation, Finance

A BILL**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act expanding the Alaska marine highway system to Yukon River locations."**

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

3 * **Section 1.** AS 19.65.011 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 19.65.011. Comprehensive long-range plan.** The Department of
 5 Transportation and Public Facilities shall prepare a comprehensive long-range plan for
 6 the development and improvement of the Alaska marine highway system, **including a**
 7 **study on the feasibility of expanding to Yukon River locations,** and shall revise and
 8 update the plan at least every five years. The department shall submit the
 9 comprehensive long-range plan and revisions and updates of the plan to the
 10 legislature.

11 * **Sec. 2.** AS 19.65.030(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) The department shall construct, purchase, or lease ferry terminal facilities
 13 at locations, **including communities along the Yukon River,** it selects for the
 14 loading and unloading of passengers and vehicles under their own power, on and off
 15 ferries. The department shall repair and maintain these facilities. Construction and

1 purchasing under this subsection are governed by AS 36.30 (State Procurement Code).

2 * **Sec. 3.** AS 19.65.050(a) is amended to read:

3 (a) The legislature finds that

4 (1) the Alaska marine highway system is an essential part of the state
5 transportation system, and that it warrants continued and predictable state support;

6 (2) many communities' economies are dependent on a steady and
7 stable marine highway system service level;

8 **(3) many communities along the Yukon River will greatly benefit**
9 **from regular marine highway transportation service for passengers and freight;**

10 **(4)** [(3)] the state's tourism industry is greatly enhanced by a
11 dependable marine highway transportation network; and

12 **(5)** [(4)] efficient and prudent management of the system will benefit
13 the state's economy and foster economic development.