

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 432(TRA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/24/06

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES SALMON, Foster

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act expanding the Alaska marine highway system to Yukon River locations and  
2 relating to the duty of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to  
3 construct, purchase, or lease ferry terminal facilities."

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

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 19.65.011 is amended to read:

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

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

14 (a) The department **may** [SHALL] construct, purchase, or lease ferry terminal

1 facilities at locations, **including communities along the Yukon River**, it selects for  
2 the loading and unloading of passengers and vehicles under their own power, on and  
3 off ferries. The department shall repair and maintain these facilities. Construction and  
4 purchasing under this subsection are governed by AS 36.30 (State Procurement Code).

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

6 (a) The legislature finds that

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

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

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

13 **(4)** [(3)] the state's tourism industry is greatly enhanced by a  
14 dependable marine highway transportation network; and

15 **(5)** [(4)] efficient and prudent management of the system will benefit  
16 the state's economy and foster economic development.