

SENATE BILL NO. 34

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS DYSON, Hoffman

Introduced: 1/21/09

Referred: Transportation, Senate Special Committee on Energy, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act directing the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to prepare a**
2 **report on the feasibility of using compressed natural gas to power vehicles in the state,**
3 **including vehicles owned or operated by the state, and including in that study, if**
4 **warranted, a pilot program proposal for powering some vehicles owned or operated by**
5 **the state with compressed natural gas."**

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

7 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
8 to read:

9 USE OF COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS TO POWER VEHICLES; PILOT
10 PROGRAM; STUDY; PROPOSAL; REPORT. (a) The Department of Transportation and
11 Public Facilities shall, under the authority of AS 44.42.020(a)(3), study the feasibility of using
12 compressed natural gas to power vehicles in the state. The study must

13 (1) review existing government programs and incentives offered in Utah and

1 other North American jurisdictions that promote the use of compressed natural gas to power
2 vehicles;

3 (2) review and summarize relevant studies and investigations on existing
4 public policy incentives that encourage the use of compressed natural gas to power vehicles;

5 (3) evaluate the environmental benefits and technical merits of using
6 compressed natural gas to power vehicles;

7 (4) consider the economic, environmental, and technological advantages and
8 disadvantages of using and promoting the use of compressed natural gas to power vehicles in
9 the state; and

10 (5) if warranted by the findings of the study, set out a proposal for a pilot
11 program in the state to test the use of compressed natural gas to power vehicles owned or
12 operated by the state; the proposal must

13 (A) recommend the most cost-effective and appropriate departments
14 and geographic locations for a pilot program;

15 (B) detail how the pilot program, if successful, could be expanded to
16 provide for increased use of compressed natural gas to power vehicles owned or
17 operated by the state, as well as privately owned or operated vehicles;

18 (C) estimate the costs to the state of a pilot program in which the state
19 would purchase vehicles powered by compressed natural gas or convert existing
20 vehicles to be powered by compressed natural gas, including

21 (i) the costs of maintaining vehicles powered by compressed
22 natural gas and training maintenance personnel;

23 (ii) the costs of adapting, or encouraging the adapting of, state
24 vehicle fueling locations to provide compressed natural gas;

25 (iii) the costs of using compressed natural gas instead of diesel
26 fuel or gasoline;

27 (iv) the costs of expanding the pilot program or developing
28 additional pilot programs under (B) of this paragraph;

29 (v) other costs or savings that can be reasonably expected to
30 accompany the pilot program.

31 (b) The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall prepare a report

- 1 containing the results of the study under (a) of this section not later than December 1, 2009.
- 2 The department shall notify the legislature when the report is available.