

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KREISS-TOMKINS, Tarr, Kawasaki, Gara, Drummond, Foster

Introduced: 2/21/18

Referred: Resources, Finance

A RESOLUTION

1 **Requesting the Governor to establish an office of outdoor access and recreation.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the state's outdoor industry generates \$7,300,000,000 in consumer
4 spending and supports 72,000 jobs that drive economic growth throughout all regions of the
5 state; and

6 **WHEREAS** the state's entrepreneurs, including equipment and apparel manufacturers,
7 guides, lodge owners, retailers, pilots, and cruise ship tour operators, rely on a vibrant outdoor
8 recreation economy; and

9 **WHEREAS** world-class recreation opportunities on the state's land and water attract
10 millions of visitors each year and could attract many more; and

11 **WHEREAS** world-class recreation opportunities improve the quality of life in the
12 state and the state's ability to attract talent, companies, and industry; and

13 **WHEREAS** outdoor recreation promotes activities that benefit health and community
14 well-being beyond the revenue that the outdoor industry generates; and

15 **WHEREAS** governors and legislatures in the western states, including Colorado,
16 Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, have established offices of outdoor recreation or

1 similar executive-level leadership entities in recognition of the importance of the outdoor
2 industry to economic growth; and

3 **WHEREAS** Alaska does not currently have a state office to coordinate and advocate
4 for the vast network of businesses, agencies, and organizations that drive the state's outdoor
5 industry;

6 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
7 Governor to establish and support an office of outdoor access and recreation devoted to
8 accelerating the growth and diversification of the state's economy; and be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that, if the Governor establishes an office of outdoor access
10 and recreation, the Alaska State Legislature supports the formation of an advisory council to
11 that office.