

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR GIESSEL

Introduced: 5/10/19

Referred: Taken Up

A RESOLUTION

1 **Establishing a Senate Special Committee on the Railbelt Electric System.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:**

3 **WHEREAS** the Railbelt electric system is a system of six interconnected utilities
4 providing generation, transmission, and delivery of electricity throughout the Railbelt
5 corridor, spanning from Fairbanks in the north, to the Matanuska and Susitna valleys and
6 Anchorage, and south through the Kenai Peninsula to Kenai, Homer, and Seward; and

7 **WHEREAS** the utilities in the Railbelt electric system cumulatively serve more than
8 565,000 residents of the state who depend on reliable, safe, and economic service for
9 residential, business, and industrial uses; and

10 **WHEREAS** multiple studies have found substantial potential for improving reliability
11 and security and providing economic savings to rate payers should the utilities in the Railbelt
12 electric system work cooperatively and formally toward those goals; and

13 **WHEREAS** it is anticipated that the Regulatory Commission of Alaska will issue a
14 report identifying a framework for the utilities in the Railbelt electric system to work
15 cooperatively toward the goals of improving reliability and security and providing economic
16 savings to rate payers, including recommendations for legislative action; and

1 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature should consider the report from the
2 Regulatory Commission of Alaska and evaluate improvements to the reliability and security
3 of the Railbelt electric system and methods to provide economic savings to rate payers;

4 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate that a Senate Special Committee on the Railbelt
5 Electric System is established to review the report from the Regulatory Commission of Alaska
6 on the operation and regulation of the Railbelt electric system, consider the findings of the
7 Regulatory Commission of Alaska, and evaluate the recommendations of the Regulatory
8 Commission of Alaska related to the Railbelt electric system; and be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the Senate shall determine the number
10 of senators to be members of the committee and shall appoint the members and designate a
11 member to chair the committee; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate Special Committee on the Railbelt Electric
13 System may meet during and between sessions of the Thirty-First Alaska State Legislature
14 and is terminated on the convening of the First Regular Session of the Thirty-Second Alaska
15 State Legislature.