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IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS BARNES AND NOLAN

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 18

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

TO F. V. DUPONT, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE; THE HONORABLE DOUGLAS MCKAY,  
SECRETARY OF INTERIOR; THE HONORABLE B. FRANK HEINTZLEMAN,  
GOVERNOR OF ALASKA; AND THE TERRITORIAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER.

WHEREAS, the area in Southeastern Alaska and Northern  
British Columbia is highly mineralized as well as covered with  
merchantable timber; and

WHEREAS, the largest asbestos deposits in North America  
are in the area east of the Southeastern Alaska cities of  
Wrangell and Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, the Canadian Government is pushing to completion  
the road known as the "A" Route from Stewart B. C. to connect  
with the Alaska Highway at Watson Lake, B. C.; and

WHEREAS, the "A" Route parallels the Stikine River only  
fifty miles east of that river; and

WHEREAS, a road to connect with the "A" Route by following  
the Iskut River to its junction with the Stikine River and thence  
following the Stikine River to its mouth, a total distance of  
ninety miles is practical and feasible to build; and

WHEREAS, deep water connection could be made here with the  
Southeastern Alaska ports of Wrangell and Petersburg, which ports  
are open the year around; and

WHEREAS, such a highway connection from the "A" Route east  
of the Coastal Range down the Iskut and Stikine Rivers to the  
deep sea ports of Wrangell, Alaska and Petersburg, Alaska would

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open up a vast proven mineralized area in Southeastern Alaska;  
and

WHEREAS, some preliminary survey work has already been done  
on a Stikine River road to connect with the "A" Route;

NOW THEREFORE, YOUR MEMORIALIST, the Legislature of the  
Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-Second Regular Session assembled,  
respectfully urges that provision be made for the earliest  
possible construction of a suitable road connecting the deep  
water ports at the permanent Alaskan communities of Petersburg  
and Wrangell with the Canadian "A" Route now under construction.