

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

2

HOUSE BILL NO. 334

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the construction or re-
7 pair of mineral access roads; amending Secs.
8 1, 2, 3, and 4, Ch. 47, SLA 1959; and pro-
9 viding for an effective date."

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

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Section 1. Sec. 1, Ch. 47, SLA 1959, is amended to read as

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follows:

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Section 1. FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE. The

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legislature hereby finds that many of the areas within the

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state most rich in mineral resources are inaccessible be-

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cause of the lack of roads therein; that this inaccessibi-

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lity of areas of great potential mineral value prohibits

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the successful extraction of such minerals; that the con-

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struction, relocation, or repair of roads into such areas

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will increase mineral prospecting, thereby bringing even

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more minerals into commercial production; that the rela-

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tively high cost of constructing, relocating, or repairing

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such roads prevents private interests from undertaking the

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development of such areas; that the cost to the state of

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constructing, relocating or repairing such roads would

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many times over be repaid by the increased revenues ari-

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sing out of the resulting mining industry; that the failure

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to so develop the many inaccessible areas within the state

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that are rich in mineral resources is detrimental to the

1 welfare and well-being of the people of Alaska by depri-
2 ving them of the benefits to the economy of the state to
3 be derived from the commercial utilization of vast quan-
4 tities of minerals which cannot be extracted because of
5 the lack of access roads thereto.

6 It is hereby declared to be the purpose of this Act
7 to facilitate the commercial utilization of the natural
8 resources of this state by authorizing the expenditure
9 of funds to construct, relocate, or repair roads into
10 and within areas rich in mineral resources or to mining
11 prospects of commercial promise which are PRESENTLY
12 inaccessible to truck haulage.

13 Sec. 2. Section 2, Ch. 47, SLA 1959, is amended to read as
14 follows:

15 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZED. There is hereby
16 authorized an annual appropriation to the Department of
17 Public Works HIGHWAY AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, or
18 its successor, for the purposes of this Act CONSTRUCTING
19 ROADS INTO AND WITHIN AREAS OF THE STATE RICH IN MINERAL
20 RESOURCES.

21 Sec. 3. Section 3, Ch. 47, SLA 1959, is amended to read as
22 follows:

23 Sec. 3. DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF MINES AND MINERALS
24 COMMISSIONER OF MINES: APPROVAL OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION.
25 No roads shall be constructed, relocated, or repaired
26 under the provisions of this Act except those to areas
27 and along routes approved by the Director, Division of
28 Mines and Minerals, Department of Natural Resources
29 COMMISSIONER OF MINES, or his successor. The Director

1 shall give first priority for such roads to those areas
2 reasonably believed to contain mineral resources of
3 commercial importance.

4 Sec. 4. Section 4, Ch. 47, SLA 1959, is amended to read as
5 follows:

6 Sec. 4. TYPE OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION: CAPITAL STRUC-
7 TURES FORBIDDEN. The Department of Public Works ~~/HIGH-~~
8 ~~WAY AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT~~, or its successor, in
9 carrying out the road work ~~/CONSTRUCTION~~ authorized by
10 this Act, shall (a) furnish all necessary engineering
11 service, (b) utilize the cheapest methods of construction
12 consistent with the purpose of this Act, and (c) construct
13 low standard roads not necessarily suitable for all weath-
14 er use. In such road work ~~/CONSTRUCTION~~, the Depart-
15 ment shall not construct any permanent capital structures
16 other than the access roads themselves, except such struc-
17 tures as are, in the opinion of the Department, essential
18 to providing road access to mineral areas; nor shall any
19 moneys appropriated as authorized herein be expended for
20 capital equipment.

21 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect on the day
22 after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law with-
23 out such approval.

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