

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MESSRS. BLODGETT, CURTIS,
JOHNSON AND FAGERSTROM

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the construction of
6 an airstrip at Savoonga.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE IN THE FIRST LEGISLATURE, SECOND
8 SESSION ASSEMBLED, THE SENATE CONCURRING:

9 WHEREAS, the village of Savoonga, having a population of
10 over 325 people, and situated on St. Lawrence Island, which is in
11 itself isolated from the mainland by the Bering Sea; and

12 WHEREAS, the village of Savoonga is reached only via dog
13 team over a hazardous 50 mile trail from Gambell or via native
14 skin boat during the open water period; and

15 WHEREAS, the village of Savoonga is reached only via dog
16 team over a treacherous 80 mile trail from Northeast Cape during
17 the winter months or via native skin boat during open water periods
18 and

19 WHEREAS, both Northeast Cape and Gambell are served by air
20 transportation since there is an airstrip at both places; and

21 WHEREAS, the people of Savoonga are bound to continue to live
22 with undue hardship because of the lack of a facility adequate for
23 an airplane to land on; and

24 WHEREAS, transportation by means of dog team and skin boat
25 is tenuous, hazardous, and capable of handling only the lightest
26 traffic; and

27 WHEREAS, weather conditions often disrupt both these means
28 of communication for extended periods and have in the past resulted
29 in death;



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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives in First
Legislature, Second Session assembled, the Senate concurring,
that these conditions of isolation can no longer be tolerated;
and that the Department of Public Works plan and schedule the
construction of an airstrip of a minimum length of 2,400 feet,
a minimum width of 90 feet, at the village of Savoonga on St.
Lawrence Island.