

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to stating the legislative
6 policy concerning the road program
7 conducted by the Department of
8 Public Works.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA IN FIRST
10 LEGISLATURE, SECOND SESSION ASSEMBLED:

11 WHEREAS, there exists within the State of Alaska a great and
12 immediate need for roads to promote the development of natural
13 resources, agriculture, industry and tourism; and

14 WHEREAS, although the state currently has both state and
15 federal funds available for an expanded road program, a severe
16 shortage of available state funds for maintenance, for matching
17 federal aid appropriations and for administration could result at
18 the end of the transitional period if proper planning and policy
19 are not followed; and

20 WHEREAS, considering these important factors, it becomes
21 apparent that the legislature must give the Department of Public
22 Works immediate and effective policy direction as to the state
23 road program;

24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Alaska in
25 First Legislature, Second Session assembled that the Department of
26 Public Works is hereby directed to properly administer a road
27 program for Alaska which is equitable to all areas of the state and
28 which follows the policy hereby established as follows:

29 (1) That a state highway system consisting of primary

1 state highways and secondary state highways be established;

2 (2) That primary state highways shall be roads of true
3 statewide importance, interest and benefit, and that the department
4 seek to bring within the federally approved highway program such
5 additional roads of statewide interest as may be necessary for the
6 progress and growth of the state; and

7 (3) That in establishing the primary state highway
8 system, the department shall first proceed to repair, reconstruct
9 or relocate the existing roads of the system so as to produce a
10 minimum of future maintenance costs; and

11 (4) That elaborate, expensive, unwarranted or uneconomical
12 location, design, construction be strictly avoided in order
13 that the most practicable, feasible and economical roads will be
14 provided through adequate planning, sound engineering and economi-
15 cal practices which consider future expansion and need; and

16 (5) That secondary state highways shall be important
17 roads of high economic importance which are not eligible as primary
18 state highways and that in the establishment of such secondary
19 state highways the principles of maximum highway use and local
20 economic needs be given due consideration; and

21 (6) That an additional system of secondary highways be
22 established which will not be included in the state highway system
23 and shall consist of roads of true local importance and need.
24 These roads will be selected wherever possible by local road
25 officials in cooperation with the Department of Public Works; and

26 (7) That the responsibility for constructing and main-
27 taining that part of both secondary systems located within their
28 boundaries be assumed in whole or in part by the local political
29 subdivisions whenever possible, thereby reducing the cost to the

1 state for construction and maintenance; and

2 (8) That the department assist in and administer the
3 pioneering and natural resource development roads as defined in
4 Ch. 47, SLA 1959 as amended or hereafter amended; and

5 (9) That whenever possible the pioneer and natural
6 resources development roads be constructed on location and within
7 established rights of way which can be later utilized if and when
8 the need for improvement to a higher road type or standard; and
9 be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be delivered
11 to the Honorable William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska, and to the
12 Honorable Richard Downing, Commissioner of Public Works.

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