

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. BOARDMAN

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7 36

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the planning and con-

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struction of roads in Alaska, and

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urging the U. S. Congress to app

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Senate Joint Resolution No. 137.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA IN SECOND

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LEGISLATURE, SECOND SESSION ASSEMBLED:

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WHEREAS, the adequacy of Alaska's military defenses which

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guard the northern approaches to the nation, the development of

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its vast resources, and its progress as a great state are contin-

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gent on the construction of roads and highways to serve local

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needs, to connect the distant corners of the state, and to increase

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Alaska's accessibility to Canada and the United States; and

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WHEREAS, although Alaska has a hardworking citizenry and an

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unlimited potential of becoming one of the most productive and

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wealthy states in the Union, it is not presently endowed with the

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means to independently plan and construct urgently needed roads

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and highways; and

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WHEREAS, the federal government has long neglected Alaska's

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highway needs as evidenced by the fact that Alaska has been de-

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prived of federal aid highway funds during the first 40 years of

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these funds -- from 1916 to 1956 -- although paying all federal

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taxes; and

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WHEREAS, if Alaska had been allowed to share the federal high-

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way aid on an equal basis with the other states, \$575 million

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would have been received since 1916; and

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1 WHEREAS, when Alaska became a state only two of its major
2 cities were connected by roads, a situation unthinkable in the
3 other states; and

4 WHEREAS, it is believed that this situation places on the
5 federal government a responsibility to assist Alaska to achieve
6 the same high degree of road development that has already been
7 obtained by Alaska's sister states; and

8 WHEREAS, Alaska is in the unique situation of being required
9 to coordinate numerous highway programs with the Canadian govern-
10 ment; and

11 WHEREAS, U. S. Senate Joint Resolution No. 137, which would
12 ameliorate this situation, has been endorsed by the U. S. Depart-
13 ment of Commerce and approved by the Bureau of the Budget;

14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Alaska in
15 Second Legislature, Second Session assembled, that the U. S. Con-
16 gress is urged to approve Senate Joint Resolution No. 137, which
17 would authorize the Secretary of Commerce, in cooperation with
18 the State of Alaska, to undertake engineering studies and planning
19 surveys pertaining to highway construction in Alaska and between
20 Alaska and Canada; and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to
22 the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President of the United States; the
23 Honorable Luther H. Hodges, Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable
24 Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President of the United States and President
25 of the Senate; the Honorable John W. McCormack, Speaker of the
26 House of Representatives; the Honorable Dennis Chavez, Chairman,
27 Senate Public Works Committee; the Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Chairman
28 Senate Finance Committee; the Honorable Warren G. Magnuson, Chair-
29 man, Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee; the Honorable

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Charles A. Buckley, Chairman, House Public Works Committee; the
Honorable Wilbur D. Mills, Chairman, House Ways and Means Com-
mittee; the Honorable Oren Harris, Chairman, Interstate and
Foreign Commerce Committee; and the members of the Alaska delega-
tion in Congress.

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