

BY SENATORS COGHILL, BRONSON,
HOPSON, MCNABB, MCNEALY, METCALF,
OWEN, AND B. PHILLIPS

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the establishment of a microwave
6 circuit by Trans-Alaska Telephone Co. for
7 long distance telephone calls between Anchor-
8 age, Alaska and Kenai, Alaska via Mt. Susitna.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE IN SECOND LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION
10 ASSEMBLED:

11 WHEREAS, hundreds of residents of the Kenai Peninsula com-
12 munities of Ninilchik, Clam Gulch, Kasilof, Coopers Landing,
13 Tustumena, Halibut Cove and adjacent rural areas are without tele-
14 phone communications; and

15 WHEREAS, feasibility studies show extension of Trans-Alaska
16 Telephone Company's Kenai Peninsula telephone systems to serve
17 residents now without telephone service is not economically feas-
18 ible unless Trans-Alaska Telephone Company can compete for toll
19 revenue from long distance telephone calls between existing Kenai
20 Peninsula exchanges and the City of Anchorage telephone exchange;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, all long distance telephone calls between the City of
23 Anchorage telephone exchange and Trans-Alaska Telephone Company
24 exchanges at Kenai, Soldotna, Sterling, Anchor Point, Homer and
25 Seldovia must now be routed exclusively through United States Army
26 owned Alaska Communications System facilities; and

27 WHEREAS, such Alaska Communications System facilities are
28 part of the military Integrated Communication System of Alaska,
29 designed and used jointly for military defense, general govern-

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1 mental agency communication, and commercial use, although such
2 system does exist primarily for military defense purposes; and

3 WHEREAS, present State of Alaska civil defense plans call for
4 utilization of Kenai Peninsula communities as reception centers
5 by Greater Anchorage residents under certain emergency conditions;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the Alaska Communications System circuits presently
8 assigned for civilian use, even if available, could probably not
9 carry the amount of long distance traffic which would be generated
10 between Anchorage and Kenai Peninsula communities in the event of
11 a national emergency; and

12 WHEREAS, establishment of a vital alternate telephone com-
13 munications link between Anchorage and Kenai Peninsula communities
14 would provide prudent additional safeguards for protection of the
15 health and welfare of a considerable segment of Alaska's popula-
16 tion; and

17 WHEREAS, the Trans-Alaska Telephone Company has the equipment,
18 plant facilities and technical staff needed to establish microwave
19 circuits for handling long distance telephone calls between the
20 City of Anchorage and Kenai Peninsula communities via Trans-Alaska
21 Telephone Company's already established Mt. Susitna microwave
22 installation; and

23 WHEREAS, the City of Anchorage has signed an inter-connect
24 agreement with Trans-Alaska Telephone Company which provides for
25 routing of telephone calls between Kenai Peninsula communities and
26 the City of Anchorage telephone system via Trans-Alaska Telephone
27 Company's microwave circuits; and

28 WHEREAS, rates for Anchorage-Kenai Peninsula telephone calls,
29 if routed via Trans-Alaska Telephone Company's Mt. Susitna micro-

1 wave facility, might well be equal to or appreciably less than
2 present toll rates charged by the Alaska Communications System; and

3 WHEREAS, such Trans-Alaska Telephone Company microwave cir-
4 cuits are not now in operation due to the objections of the Alaska
5 Communications System to issuance of the necessary license by the
6 Federal Communications Commission; and

7 WHEREAS, such continued denial of a license to Trans-Alaska
8 Telephone Company to operate microwave circuits between Anchorage
9 and Kenai via Mt. Susitna is retarding the normal development of
10 needed communications on the Kenai Peninsula, and is inimical to
11 the safety, welfare and best interests of the residents of the
12 Kenai Peninsula, Greater Anchorage area and the State of Alaska;

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate in Second Legislature, First
14 Session assembled, that the Public Service Commission of the State
15 of Alaska is respectfully urged to grant a certificate of public
16 convenience and necessity to Trans-Alaska Telephone Company for
17 operation of microwave circuits between Anchorage and Kenai via
18 Mt. Susitna, and is further urged to request that the Federal Com-
19 munications Commission issue the necessary license to Trans-Alaska
20 Telephone Company for operation of the above mentioned microwave
21 circuit; and be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the
23 President of the United States; the Chairman, Senate Military
24 Affairs Committee; the Chairman, House Military Affairs Committee;
25 Secretary, Department of Defense; Secretary, Department of the
26 Army; the Chairman, Federal Communications Commission; Commander-
27 in-Chief, Alaskan Command; Commanding General, United States Army,
28 Alaska; and the Alaska delegation to Congress.

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