

Introduced: 3/18/63  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
BY REQUEST.

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to a request urging competi-  
6 tive bidding for the surface mail trans-  
7 portation contract between Seward and  
8 Nikolski and urging the enlargement of  
9 this route to include Seattle.

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

11 WHEREAS the contract for the Seward-Nikolski mail boat ser-  
12 vice will expire on June 30, 1963; and

13 WHEREAS the well-being and standard of living of the people  
14 of Kodiak, the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian Islands and the  
15 future development and progress of this part of the state is  
16 absolutely dependent on its water transportation and communica-  
17 tion systems; and

18 WHEREAS it appears from numerous sources (Postmaster General's  
19 report, June 9, 1939; Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post  
20 Roads, Report No. 955, July 26, 1939, Calendar No. 997; and the  
21 Congressional Record, Vol. 84, Part 10, p. 10963) that in awarding  
22 postal contracts the ability of the carrier to provide adequate  
23 passenger and freight service is an extremely important considera-  
24 tion; and

25 WHEREAS freight has been delayed as long as three months be-  
26 cause of the small size and slow speed of the present ship; and

27 WHEREAS the present ship lacks adequate facilities to trans-  
28 port products requiring refrigeration; and

29 WHEREAS present passenger accommodations are grossly

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1 inadequate, particularly for women and children; and

2 WHEREAS the people on the Seward-Nikolski mail route believe  
3 that their interests and the interests of the U. S. Post Office  
4 Department could be better served by a much faster, larger, and  
5 partially refrigerated ship operating between Seattle, Seward and  
6 Nikolski; and

7 WHEREAS the Seward-Nikolski mail contract has been extended  
8 in the past without the benefit of competitive bidding; and

9 WHEREAS competitive bidding for mail contracts with due con-  
10 sideration given to the ability of the bidders to provide ade-  
11 quate passenger and freight service has proven to be in the best  
12 public interest;

13 BE IT RESOLVED that the U. S. Post Office Department be re-  
14 spectfully urged to allow competitive bidding for the surface  
15 mail contract between Seward and Nikolski, and that this route  
16 be enlarged to include Seattle; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to  
18 the Postmaster General of the United States; the Regional Director,  
19 U. S. Post Office Department, Portland, Oregon; and the members  
20 of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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