

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. CASHEL

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Requesting federal action to make

6

the waters of Southeast Alaska

7

safe for navigation.

8

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

9

WHEREAS, the extensive waterways of Southeast Alaska are the
10 highways of the area for commercial and other travel and communi-
11 cation vital to the life and development of the region; and

12

WHEREAS, the navigation of these water highways by freighters,
13 state ferries, cruise ships and fishing vessels in safety is of
14 prime concern to those using and depending on the use of these
15 waters; and

16

WHEREAS, in recent months the commerce of Southeast Alaska
17 has been hindered, threatened and delayed due to the presence of
18 obstacles to safe navigation in the area, particularly in the
19 waters of Whitestone Narrows, Sergius Narrows and Wrangell
20 Narrows; and

21

WHEREAS, the presence of these navigation obstacles and the
22 lack of aids to navigation have placed an undue burden on private
23 and public water transportation through the loss of both money
24 for expenses, repairs, and time lost on schedules; and

25

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska, through Governor William A.
26 Egan, and private industry, through the Alaska Steamship Company,
27 have requested that new surveys be made of and additional aids to
28 navigation be installed in or relocated in Southeast Alaska waters
29 to remove continuing threats to commerce, personal safety, and

1 property;

2 BE IT RESOLVED that the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, with
3 the cooperation of the U. S. Coast Guard and the U. S. Coast and
4 Geodetic Survey is respectfully and urgently requested to take
5 immediate action for the resurvey of Southeast Alaska waters, the
6 removal of obstacles to navigation, and the appropriate placement
7 or relocation of aids to navigation to the end that private and
8 public commerce on the waters of Southeast Alaska may have the
9 protection necessary to its survival as the "life-line" of the
10 region; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to
12 the Honorable Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense; the
13 Honorable Douglas Dillon, Secretary of the Treasury; the Honorable
14 Paul H. Nitze, Secretary of the Navy; Admiral Edwin J. Roland,
15 Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard; Lt. General Walter K. Wilson,
16 Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army; the Honorable H. Arnold Karo,
17 Director, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Department of Commerce; Rear
18 Admiral George D. Synon, Commander, 17th Coast Guard District;
19 Colonel Kenneth Sawyer, District Engineer, Corps of Engineers
20 (Alaska); and the members of the Alaska Delegation in Congress.

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29