

Introduced: 2/17/66  
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY RAY

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 75  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Protesting the discrimination  
6 against the State of Alaska  
7 ferries by the U. S. Bureau of  
8 Customs.

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

10 WHEREAS in May 1962 the Commissioner of the U. S. Bureau of  
11 Customs, Department of the Treasury, issued an administrative  
12 ruling that the ferries of the State of Alaska operating between  
13 Alaska and Prince Rupert, British Columbia, were not to be classi-  
14 fied as "ferries" under section 451 of the Tariff Act of 1930; and

15 WHEREAS this administrative ruling requires the State of  
16 Alaska to pay U. S. customs fees at Ketchikan for each vessel  
17 departure to Prince Rupert and for each vessel which arrives at  
18 Ketchikan from Prince Rupert and this combined with the annual  
19 tonnage tax on each vessel because they are not classified as  
20 "ferries" costs the state on the average of \$1,700 each year; and

21 WHEREAS in addition to this expense the Commissioner of the  
22 Bureau of U. S. Customs has also made an administrative ruling that  
23 the State of Alaska must pay overtime penalty fees for customs  
24 inspectors at Ketchikan and inspectors who clear passengers  
25 boarding the ferries at Prince Rupert inbound to the United States  
26 from Canada, and this additional expense to the State of Alaska  
27 averages \$10,300 a year; and

28 WHEREAS the Canadian Government has waived assessment of the  
29 overtime penalty fee for its customs inspectors and the U. S.

1 Government makes no overtime assessment at Haines or Skagway,  
2 Alaska, for ferry passengers who enter the United States from  
3 Canada;

4 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska  
5 protests the unwarranted and discriminatory assessment of fees  
6 on the ferries of the State of Alaska and respectfully requests  
7 the President of the United States to direct the Department of  
8 the Treasury to withdraw its unwarranted administrative rulings  
9 which cost the State of Alaska \$12,000 each year in additional  
10 operating expenses.

11 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable  
12 Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States; the Honorable  
13 Henry H. Fowler, Secretary of the Treasury; the Honorable Lester  
14 D. Johnson, Acting Commissioner, U. S. Bureau of Customs; and the  
15 Honorable E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, U. S.  
16 Senators, and the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, U. S. Representative,  
17 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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