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Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

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2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting a feasibility study looking
6 toward resolution of the sea transport
7 problem in the Bering Sea and Arctic
8 Ocean areas of Alaska.

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

10 WHEREAS the communities along the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean coasts
11 are dependent on one commercial and one government-owned surface carrier for
12 the importation of their basic needs; and

13 WHEREAS the marginal nature of the business of sea transportation to
14 this area by the commercial carriers points to a possible discontinuance of
15 this vital service; and

16 WHEREAS the services of the commercial carriers are duplicated to a great
17 extent by the transport services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs vessel
18 "North Star"; and

19 WHEREAS this duplicating of service in a marginal market area is an
20 uneconomical and inefficient operation which is detrimental to private
21 business, the government and the communities served;

22 BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully urged to appoint a
23 special study commission consisting of the Secretary of State, the Commis-
24 sioner of Economic Development, the Commissioner of Commerce and the Trans-
25 portation Commission to examine the problem, consult with appropriate federal
26 and commercial carrier officials involved in the Bering Sea trade, and recom-
27 mend to all parties concerned and the Legislature within one year a course of
28 action, including consideration of a possible subsidy and possible merger.