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Referred: Commerce,  
State Affairs & Finance

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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to an airport runway extension

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at Sitka.

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

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WHEREAS the airport at Sitka, Alaska, can serve the Boeing 727 jets

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only under restricted loadings; and

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WHEREAS restricted loadings seriously limit the effectiveness of the

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airport in good weather; and

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WHEREAS in winter weather the present limited runway length of 5,000

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feet often means that required safety margins are not present thus preventing

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jets from landing at all and sometimes even preventing propeller driven

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planes from landing, which deprives Sitka of all air service; and

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WHEREAS the loss of revenue to Sitka has been estimated to be \$10,000

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during a recent week when jets were prevented from landing because of icy

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runway conditions, although they could have landed on a longer runway, and

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Alaska Airlines estimates its loss for the same week to have been \$10,300;

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and

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WHEREAS, since the present jet service to Sitka began on June 1, 1967,

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the city has become dependent on jet cargo and passenger service because

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some of the other freight carriers, such as Alaska Steamship Company, have

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altered their methods of handling freight; and

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WHEREAS, when jet service is not available to Sitka because of a

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combination of inclement weather and an inadequate runway, the area suffers

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greatly from delayed mail and freight shipments; and

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WHEREAS an additional 2,700 feet of runway would eliminate the load

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restrictions on the 727, would allow other types of aircraft, such as the 720

1 and 880 to land, and would provide the necessary safety factors for all  
2 aircraft landing under adverse conditions;

3 BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct  
4 the Division of Aviation of the Department of Public Works to take the  
5 necessary steps to obtain a 2,700-foot extension of the Sitka airport  
6 runway.

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