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Referred: State Affairs
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY METCALF

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the completion of the
6 Resurrection Valley Tourist Access
7 Road.

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

9 WHEREAS the Lowell Glacier, a potential tourist attraction, and an arm
10 of the famous HARDING ICE CAP, the largest ice cap in the world, is situated
11 about 10 miles up Resurrection Valley from mile 3 1/2 on the Seward Highway;
12 and

13 WHEREAS records maintained by the United States Forest Service show and
14 indicate that Alaskan glaciers are a major tourist attraction to visiting
15 tourists and that 96,000 and 106,000 traveling tourists visited the
16 Mendenhall Glacier in 1968 and 1969 respectively; and that 135,000 and
17 99,200 traveling tourists visited the Portage Glacier in 1968 and 1969
18 respectively; and

19 WHEREAS it has been recognized that the construction of a tourist
20 access road extending from mile 3 1/2 on the Seward Highway to the foot of
21 the Lowell Glacier would provide a fabulous tourist attraction to the
22 traveling tourists visiting Alaska throughout the annual summer tourist
23 seasons; and

24 WHEREAS a reconnaissance survey was made in 1961, at the request of the
25 state, which established the feasibility of the construction of such a road;
26 and

27 WHEREAS the completion of this tourist access road would make the
28 Harding Ice Cap more easily accessible for development as a major year-
29 round ski area; and

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2 WHEREAS the completion of the construction of this tourist access road
3 would aid materially in improving Seward's economic base, which was so
4 severely damaged and reduced by the March 1964 earthquake and tidal wave;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, through the joint effort of the state and the citizens of the
7 City of Seward, four miles of this tourist access road have already been
8 85 per cent completed during the past years of 1968 and 1969; and

9 WHEREAS it is estimated that \$150,000 will be required to complete the
10 remaining six miles of this road, whereby visiting tourists could travel
11 to the immediate area at the foot of scenic Lowell Glacier;

12 BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully urged to direct the
13 Department of Highways to program the funds necessary for the construction
14 and completion of the remaining six miles of the Resurrection Valley tourist
15 access road for the 1970-71 fiscal year.
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