

Introduced: 4/13/70
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 119

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Requesting the negotiation of a treaty
6 between Canada and the United States
7 for the establishment of a Canadian
8 port at Skagway and Haines.

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

10 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has established, at its own instigation and
11 expense, a modern marine highway system connecting Alaska and the 48 con-
12 tiguous states through the Port of Seattle; and

13 WHEREAS the Alaska Marine Highway System was devised and is operated to
14 take the place of a highway because of the impossibility of actual road
15 building in Southeastern Alaska; and

16 WHEREAS there is a tremendous movement in commerce, trade and tourism
17 between the South 48 states and Alaska; and

18 WHEREAS, to better handle all of the traffic, the Alaska Marine Highway
19 System purchased a foreign-bottomed vessel, the M. V. Wickersham; and

20 WHEREAS presently, due to the provisions of the Jones Act, the M. V.
21 Wickersham is prohibited from transporting passengers and vehicles between
22 U. S. ports, thus creating an unreasonable burden on the residents of the
23 state, on the flow of commerce and on the visitors to Alaska; and

24 WHEREAS under international law every government which is sovereign
25 within its sphere of action possesses as an inherent attribute the power to
26 acquire territory by agreement or treaty;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth Alaska State Legislature respectfully
28 requests the Department of State to negotiate with the Canadian government
29 with the object of establishing by treaty or other agreement a portion of

1 the ports of Skagway and Haines as Canadian ports.

2 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
3 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable William P. Rogers,
4 Secretary, Department of State; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
5 Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Howard W. Pollock,
6 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.