Introduced: 3/20/72
Referred: State Affairs and Finance

IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL NO. 742

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

A BILL

For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for the establishment of footpaths and trails along highways and streets; and providing for an effective date."

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

* Section 1. AS 19 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

CHAPTER 16. FOOTPATHS AND TRAILS.

Sec. 19.16.010. FOOTPATHS AND TRAILS. (a) The commissioner of highways, in cooperation with the commissioners of natural resources, public works and environmental conservation shall develop and administer a statewide integrated program providing for the establishment and maintenance of footpaths and trails along certain designated existing highways, or when a highway, road or street is being constructed, reconstructed or relocated after the effective date of this chapter.

(b) No footpath or trail may be established under (a) of this section if

(1) the establishment of footpaths and trails is contrary to public safety;

(2) the cost of establishing footpaths or trails is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use;

(3) sparsity of population, other available ways, or other factors indicate an absence of a need for footpaths or trails.

(c) Trails established under this section may be used for more than one type of nonmotorized transportation, as determined by the commissioners of highways, natural resources, public works and environmental

conservation. When appropriate, the commissioners may provide for trails for snowmobiles and other off-the-road motorized vehicles. A uniform system of marking footpaths and trails shall be established by the Department of Highways.

Sec. 19.16.020. LOCAL PARTICIPATION. (a) A city of any class or a borough having and exercising powers to build and maintain roads is entitled to state grants-in-aid for the establishment and maintenance of footpaths and trails.

(b) Before a grant is awarded under this section, application shall be submitted to the commissioner of highways, accompanied by a comprehensive plan for the establishment of footpaths and trails.

(c) Upon approval of the plan, funds shall be disbursed to cities and boroughs according to regulations established by the commissioner of highways.

Sec. 19.16.030. AMOUNT TO BE APPROPRIATED. (a) An amount equal to one per cent of the total yearly state and federal matching sum combined, under the federal-aid highways program (23 U.S.C., sec. 101 - 511), shall be appropriated annually from the general fund for purposes of developing the program specified in sec. 10 of this chapter, or for purposes of grants-in-aid under sec. 20 of this chapter.

(b) Except as provided in (c) of this section, the sums appropriated under this section shall continue to be available for expenditure by the Department of Highways or by eligible cities and boroughs for a period of five years after the close of the fiscal year for which the sums are authorized. Amounts so obligated remaining unexpended at the end of that period shall lapse.

(c) The amount expended by a city or borough under secs. 20 - 30 of this chapter shall never in any one fiscal year be less than 10 per cent of the total amount of the funds it receives in that year for the

purposes authorized in sec. 10 of this chapter.

(d) Funds appropriated under this section but not expended may, within the five-year period, be credited to a financial reserve or special fund established by the Department of Highways or by the participating local government, as the case may be.

* Sec. 2. This Act takes effect on the day after its passage and approval or on the day it becomes law without approval.