

Original sponsors: Specking, M. Miller  
and Fischer

Offered: 4/14/71  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the Alaska Marine

6 Highway System.

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

8 WHEREAS the Alaska Marine Highway System was initiated in 1962 as a  
9 vital waterborne service to provide economic, cultural, and communication  
10 links between the cities of Southeast Alaska; and

11 WHEREAS, subsequently, similar service was initiated among the ports of  
12 Southcentral Alaska; and

13 WHEREAS the system has proven of great and continuing value not only  
14 as basic transportation for Alaskans, but as a favorite means of transport  
15 for hundreds of thousands of dollar-spending Alaska visitors; and

16 WHEREAS in spite of the success of the system in Southeastern and South-  
17 central Alaska, there exists today a sizeable gap in service between these  
18 two areas of Alaska; and

19 WHEREAS, because of this gap, Alaskans and Alaska visitors are forced  
20 to travel great distances through a foreign nation in order to proceed from  
21 Southeastern to Southcentral Alaska; and

22 WHEREAS, if a direct marine highway link existed between Southeastern  
23 Alaska and Southcentral Alaska, travel over all-Alaskan routes would be  
24 possible, as would scenic "circle trips" in which Alaskans and visitors could  
25 travel one way by highway, the other by marine highway;

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the Governor is respect-  
27 fully requested to direct the Department of Public Works, Division of Marine  
28 Transportation, to initiate as soon as possible studies relative to the  
29 feasibility of ferry service between Southeastern and Southcentral Alaska.