

Introduced: 4/2/71  
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY ORBECK, E. MILLER AND  
WARWICK

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 67

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the United States Postal  
6 Service at Fort Yukon and Barrow.

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

8 WHEREAS there are no roads to Fort Yukon and Barrow, Alaska, which can  
9 be utilized by any form of ground transportation; and

10 WHEREAS the many citizens of Fort Yukon and Barrow must totally depend  
11 upon air service for all items of mail, including personal communications,  
12 business communications, supplies of every kind and description, newspapers,  
13 and all other items and commodities that may be forwarded by the United  
14 States Postal Service; and

15 WHEREAS, although there is daily air service to Fort Yukon and Barrow,  
16 the postal service, in general, fails to accommodate even the basic needs of  
17 the community; and

18 WHEREAS there are many instances where in-state newspapers (even from  
19 Fairbanks) arrive over two weeks late; medical supplies have arrived after  
20 they are no longer needed; individuals suffer loss of credit because bills  
21 arrive after they are due; businesses are damaged by the lack of communica-  
22 tion; transportation facilities have suffered because parts are not received  
23 within a reasonable time after they are ordered; and

24 WHEREAS a host of other inconveniences and aggravations have been  
25 foisted upon the residents of Fort Yukon and Barrow because of the less than  
26 dependable postal service; and

27 WHEREAS morale is affected by constant disappointment and frustration  
28 over these failures in communication, and personal lives are drastically  
29 affected by the lack of dependable ties with family and friends; and

1 WHEREAS the postal service to Fort Yukon and Barrow has deteriorated to  
2 an even greater degree since the institution by the United States Postal  
3 Service of the "two track" air transport system;

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Post  
5 Office is urgently requested to take all action necessary to upgrade the  
6 postal services to Fort Yukon and Barrow, at least to the level of adequacy  
7 present before institution of the "two track" system.

8 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Winton M.  
9 Blount, Postmaster General of the United States; the Honorable Gale W.  
10 McGee, U. S. Senator and Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Post Office  
11 and Civil Service; the Honorable Thaddeus J. Dulski, U. S. Representative  
12 and Chairman of the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service;  
13 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S.  
14 Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of  
15 the Alaska delegation in Congress.