

1 IN THE SENATE

BY HENSLEY

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the institution of a bush
6 tourism program.

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

8 WHEREAS, in the years since Alaska attained statehood, tourism has
9 become one of the fastest growing, most significant industries in the State
10 of Alaska; and

11 WHEREAS, as an industry, tourism is "labor intensive" and has the
12 capacity to hire more persons with limited skills than most other fields of
13 endeavor; and

14 WHEREAS, in those Alaska communities where tourism has flourished and
15 grown, there has, indeed, developed significant employment opportunities
16 for large numbers of Alaskans who might otherwise not have had jobs; and

17 WHEREAS the State of Alaska is currently planning boarding school
18 dormitory and housing facilities in a number of rural Alaska communities
19 which do not currently enjoy the benefits of tourism; and

20 WHEREAS many Alaska visitors are known to be desirous of "getting off
21 the beaten path" and enjoying the pleasures of rural Alaska; and

22 WHEREAS, with proper planning, a number of these facilities might well
23 be developable as overnight accommodations for Alaska summer visitors who
24 would then spend time and dollars in these communities;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the Governor is respect-
26 fully requested to delegate a committee to be comprised of the Commissioners
27 of Economic Development, Public Works, and Education to conduct a feasibility
28 study with the objective of designating one or more rural communities for
29 a pilot "bush tourism" program, the prime priorities of the program to be

1 maximum participation by local residents in the management, employment,
2 and financial rewards of such an arrangement and maximum possible partici-
3 pation by local residents of associated activities such as sightseeing,
4 entertainment, and sale of products and services; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the results of the study, including the designa-
6 tion of one or more suggested pilot projects, along with appropriate enabling
7 legislation, if needed, be presented to the Seventh Legislature, Second
8 Session.

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