

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FINK, MCVEIGH, FERGUSON AND  
HUBER

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to a study of transportation  
6 rates to communities not accessible  
7 by highway, and the level of trans-  
8 portation service to Alaska's rural  
9 communities.

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

11 WHEREAS transportation costs to the numerous rural areas of Alaska that  
12 are not accessible by highway are so inflated that oftentimes it is totally  
13 economically unfeasible for many persons to obtain ordinary and conventional  
14 merchandise or to travel themselves; and

15 WHEREAS the people of rural Alaska have not met with success to date in  
16 their continuing efforts to establish an economical, viable transportation  
17 system; and

18 WHEREAS it is vital to the well-being and continuing development of  
19 the many Alaskans who live in remote areas of the state that transportation  
20 costs be reduced; and

21 WHEREAS an additional problem faced by the many citizens of Alaska who  
22 reside in remote areas is the suffering of the level of service available  
23 to the rural areas of the state;

24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Legislative  
25 Council is directed to undertake a study with the objective of making recom-  
26 mendations to the legislature on the lowering of transportation rates to  
27 Alaska's many rural communities and <sup>on</sup> the level of service that is required  
28 in the rural areas to ensure the many communities affected the maximum  
29 necessary level of service; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council may contract with an  
2 appropriate qualified person or firm to conduct the study under the direction  
3 of the council; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall include, but not necessarily be  
5 limited to,

6 (1) an analysis of the cost of transportation from the state's  
7 urban areas such as Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau, and Ketchikan;

8 (2) consideration of a state subsidy similar to that on the Marine  
9 Highway System;

10 (3) consideration of various alternate methods of state transpor-  
11 tation such as state-operated airlines or subsidies to existing or new carriers;

12 (4) consideration of alternate standards for subsidies such as  
13 monthly fees, poundage fees, or passenger fees;

14 (5) an examination and analysis of the total cost per fiscal year  
15 for the various alternative methods of assistance considered;

16 (6) consideration of the conditions that a community might have  
17 to meet if some sort of subsidy system were recommended, such as a community's  
18 refusal to connect to a highway or marine highway system if possible, the  
19 needs of the community, and when a community should no longer be eligible  
20 for assistance;

21 (7) consideration of the level of service required for particular  
22 communities and areas of the state to ensure maximum efficiency and  
23 utilitarianism; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Council submit its report and  
25 recommendations to the Ninth Legislature - First Session.  
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