

Introduced: 1/29/73
Referred: Commerce

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FRITZ

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18 *AM*

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting a federal study of air-
6 craft accidents resulting in injuries
7 and deaths which might have been
8 prevented through the use of shoulder
9 harnesses instead of seat belts.

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

11 WHEREAS every year scores of people are killed or injured unnecessarily
12 in Alaska in accidents involving light aircraft even though they were wearing
13 seat belts as required by Federal Aviation Administration regulations; and

14 WHEREAS the situation in other states is probably similar, although
15 Alaskans rely on small aircraft for transportation more than people residing
16 elsewhere; and

17 WHEREAS it is thought that many of these deaths and injuries could be
18 prevented through the requirement of the use of properly installed and
19 functioning shoulder harnesses; and

20 WHEREAS the pain and suffering and the costs of medical care and
21 permanent disabilities from these perhaps needless aircraft injuries reach
22 enormous proportions even in a sparsely populated state such as Alaska; and

23 WHEREAS the Federal Aviation Administration should conduct a study to
24 determine the feasibility of requiring the installation and use of shoulder
25 harnesses in light aircraft by the utilization of comparative data on injuries
26 and deaths in aircraft accidents where seat belts were used and those where
27 shoulder harnesses were used or where, had they been used, the injuries or
28 deaths could have been prevented;

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Eighth Alaska Legislature that the Federal

1 Aviation Administration is respectfully requested to conduct a thorough
2 study of the feasibility of requiring the installation and use of shoulder
3 harnesses in light aircraft.

4 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable John A. Volpe,
5 Secretary of Transportation; to the Honorable John H. Shaffer, Federal
6 Aviation Administration Administrator; to the Honorable Frank E. Moss,
7 Chairman of the Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee; to the
8 Chairman of the House Science and Aeronautics Committee; and to the Honorable
9 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, members of the
10 Alaska delegation in Congress.