

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST
OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Supporting reconstruction of the
6 Copper River Highway.

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

8 WHEREAS a temporary injunction has been granted by the 9th Circuit
9 Court of Appeals in San Francisco to the Sierra Club and the Alaska Con-
10 servation Society preventing the Department of Highways from completing
11 construction of the Copper River Highway; and

12 WHEREAS the Department of Highways did plan to reconstruct the Copper
13 River Highway and had made meaningful progress in reopening the earthquake
14 damaged road; and

15 WHEREAS the highway was reopened to Mile 75 from Cordova and repairs
16 were made to the Copper River Delta Bridges and the Allen and Million
17 Dollar Bridge; and

18 WHEREAS the highway, which had large portions of it damaged in the 1964
19 earthquake, is the only possible surface link between Cordova and Prince
20 William Sound and Interior Alaska; and

21 WHEREAS the federal government has already appropriated \$22 million
22 for reconstruction of the highway; and

23 WHEREAS it is the goal of the state to provide the basic transportation
24 facilities that the people of the state desire for basic economic development,
25 recreation, social and health needs; and

26 WHEREAS the state has pledged to make every effort to enhance the
27 social and economic well-being of the state and its citizens; and

28 WHEREAS the delay of the project can do nothing but frustrate the goals
29 of the state to construct a viable and economic transportation system con-

1 necting Prince William Sound with interior Alaska,

2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it expresses its
3 strong support for the early completion of the Copper River Highway and
4 urges the Governor to utilize all available resources at his command and to
5 obtain removal of the temporary injunction so that reconstruction of the
6 Copper River Highway can proceed; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Department of Highways is commended
8 for their activities in reopening the Copper River Highway to Mile 75; and
9 be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct
11 the Department of Highways to continue its effort to remove the Ninth
12 Circuit Court injunction preventing maintenance and construction on the
13 Copper River Highway in order that the construction that has been accomplished
14 can be properly maintained and so that construction of the highway can be
15 completed; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the continued maintenance and construction of
17 this road be of the highest priority during the 1974 construction season.
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