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Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

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AND NAUGHTON

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to travel on state ferries by
6 official school activity groups.

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

8 WHEREAS during the course of the school year many school activities
9 necessitate the transporting of school officials and students to other towns;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, because of rising costs and cutbacks in many school budgets,
12 it is extremely difficult for a school to afford to engage in worthwhile
13 extracurricular activities; and

14 WHEREAS, if the people of Alaska could lessen the financial burden
15 for schools engaged in official and sanctioned activities, they would provide
16 a noble and worthwhile service; and

17 WHEREAS those students who are able to engage in extracurricular activi-
18 ties and who are able to visit other Alaskan communities receive educational
19 benefits of value just as great as those emanating from traditional academic
20 pursuits; and

21 WHEREAS it is not unusual for other states and local political entities
22 to grant certain special benefits and gratuities to selected classes of
23 people; and

24 WHEREAS, during the off-season fall, winter and spring months, the
25 state ferries frequently operate at less than full capacity; therefore, if
26 official school groups were permitted to travel without cost, the foot
27 passenger traffic would swell as well as revenue at no significant increase
28 in cost because the vessels of the Alaska Marine Highway operate at a
29 relatively high fixed cost whether "on line" or not;

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
2 respectfully requested to direct the Division of Marine Transportation to
3 initiate a program whereby official school activity groups may travel on
4 state ferries for no fare, provided that travel shall be on a space-available
5 basis only and between two Alaskan points of embarkation from the month
6 of November through the following month of April.

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