

Introduced: 2/28/75
Referred: State Affairs and
Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE BY GARDINER, ELIASON AND MILLER
2 *CS* HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Proposing a study of the feasibility of
6 locating a marine maintenance facility in
7 Alaska for the vessels of the state ferry
8 system.

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

10 WHEREAS the State of Alaska spent approximately \$235,500 in Seattle
11 shipyards in fiscal year 1974 to overhaul and maintain six of the seven
12 vessels that comprised the fleet of the Alaska Marine Highway during that
13 period; and

14 WHEREAS, in addition to the substantial outflow of Alaska tax dollars to
15 the State of Washington, generally, and to Puget Sound in particular, repre-
16 sented by this sum, the Alaska state ferries must travel many miles to secure
17 all but the most minor, routine maintenance work done; and

18 WHEREAS, when there is an emergency requiring immediate access to dry
19 dock facilities, as the state ferry system has experienced on several oc-
20 casions in recent months, the inability to utilize a marine maintenance
21 facility in Alaska requires that a ship face a long, arduous journey south
22 to Seattle, with all the attendant uncertainties the ship must face mechani-
23 cally not to mention the potential jeopardy to the safety of the ship and
24 crew; and

25 WHEREAS, during the annual overhaul period, averaging two months for
26 each vessel each Winter -- too long a period in the judgment of some respon-
27 sible observers, the ships' crews must live away from their Alaska homes, and
28 the cost of transporting them between Alaska and Puget Sound is great; and

29 WHEREAS the performance of annual maintenance or overhaul in an Alaska

1 facility would contribute income to the state's frequently sluggish winter
2 economy;

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Legislative
4 Budget and Audit Committee is respectfully requested to appoint a subcommittee
5 of two members of the Senate and two members of the House of Representatives
6 to meet and work with the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of
7 the Division of Marine Transportation to conduct, or supervise the conduct of,
8 a comprehensive study of the feasibility of leasing or otherwise acquiring
9 and using, or constructing, operating and maintaining a marine maintenance
10 facility for the ferry vessels owned by the State of Alaska and operated by
11 the Division of Marine Transportation of the Department of Public Works; and
12 be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee is
14 authorized to contract with a recognized consultant, or consultants, in the
15 field of marine survey, engineering or architecture to assist the legislature
16 and the Department of Public Works in conducting the feasibility study; and
17 be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED that this subcommittee of the Legislative Budget and
19 Audit Committee present its findings and recommendations to the Ninth Alaska
20 Legislature, not later than 30 days after the Second Session convenes.
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