

Original sponsor: H. Beirne

Offered: 2/3/76
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 72

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSTION

5 Requesting the extension of "800" toll-
6 free telephone numbers to Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS, historically, due to geographical considerations, a sparse
9 population and distance, Alaska has been deprived of a variety of services,
10 facilities, and opportunities available in her sister states; and

11 WHEREAS the lack of comprehensive, integrated communications services
12 long has hampered Alaskans in their personal and commercial interactions, and
13 has had an adverse impact on the state's economic development; and

14 WHEREAS one communications service unavailable to Alaskans is the long
15 distance telephone toll-free calling system commonly known as the "800"
16 numbers; and

17 WHEREAS these "800" series telephone numbers enable individuals anywhere
18 in the continental United States to telephone, tollfree, businesses, govern-
19 mental agencies and other organizations to obtain information, make reserva-
20 tions, conduct business and other transactions; and

21 WHEREAS the unavailability of this "800" service results in daily per-
22 sonal inconvenience, business delays and hardships as well as loss of eco-
23 nomic opportunities and benefits; and

24 WHEREAS the connection of Alaska to the "800" toll-free long distance
25 telephone services would immeasurably enhance tourism in the state by en-
26 abling Alaskans as well as prospective travelers to "The Great Land" to make
27 reservations with hotels and other places of public accommodations, as well
28 as with the Alaska Marine Highway, our unique state ferry system, in an
29 expeditious manner; and

1 WHEREAS RCA Alascom, Inc., the long distance communications common
2 carrier serving Alaska, operates under a certificate of public interest, con-
3 venience and necessity; and

4 WHEREAS connection of Alaska's telephone system to the "800" toll-free,
5 long distance telephone system requires a tariff agreement between RCA Alas-
6 com, Inc., and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company;

7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
8 respectfully requested to direct the Office of Telecommunications to initiate
9 whatever action is required to assist RCA Alascom, Inc., in making the neces-
10 sary rate and tariff arrangements with American Telephone and Telegraph
11 Company to permit Alaskans to use the toll-free "800" long distance telephone
12 service; that RCA Alascom be requested to obtain whatever additional equip-
13 ment is necessary to connect Alaska to the AT&T "800" calling system; and
14 that RCA Alascom be requested to take this action immediately to enable
15 Alaskans to use the "800" telephone numbers during the summer of 1976.

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the President of RCA Alascom,
17 Inc., and to the President of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

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