

Introduced: 4/12/76
Referred: Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the Seward-Nome historic trail.

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

7 WHEREAS the communities of Alaska have been connected by trails for
8 thousands of years; and

9 WHEREAS those same trails started by Native Alaskans became the trails
10 down which the miners, trappers and traders poured into the Interior of
11 Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS some of those same trails became the roads and railroads which
13 make up the lifelines which connect Alaska's communities today and remain
14 the only connection between most of Alaska's communities; and

15 WHEREAS the Seward to Nome Trail played a major part in the history of
16 the development of Western Alaska and the United States; and

17 WHEREAS the Iditarod section of the Trail became internationally famous
18 as the route to the gold fields of Western Alaska and as the route down
19 which, in 1925, diphtheria serum was rushed by dogsled to save the people of
20 Nome; and

21 WHEREAS a portion of the famous trail has become the route of the annual
22 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race; and

23 WHEREAS the United States Department of the Interior and the State of
24 Alaska have studied the route's historic and recreational potential and have
25 proposed that the trail be classified a National Historic Trail; and

26 WHEREAS the Alaska American Revolution Bicentennial Commission and the
27 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race Committee have endorsed the proposal for an
28 Iditarod National Historic Trail;

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States

1 Congress is urged to designate the 1600 miles of trails from Seward to Nome
2 as the Iditarod National Historic Trail.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Carl Albert,
4 Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable James O. Eastland,
5 President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable Henry M. Jackson, Chairman,
6 Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; the Honorable J. Bennett
7 Johnston, Chairman, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, Senate Committee on
8 Interior and Insular Affairs; the Honorable James A. Haley, Chairman, House
9 Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable Roy A. Taylor, Chairman,
10 National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular
11 Affairs Committee; the Honorable Thomas S. Kleppe, Secretary of the Interior;
12 the Honorable James G. Watt, Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, United
13 States Department of Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
14 Honorable Mike Gravel, United States Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
15 United States Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.