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Offered: 4/21/77

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 WHEREAS during the course of the winter many recreational groups engage  
23 in intercommunity activities; and

24 WHEREAS because of small budgets and high costs many such groups find  
25 the cost of transportation a heavy burden; and

26 WHEREAS a group rate on the state ferries would benefit the people of  
27 the state who belong to such groups, the groups themselves, and the communi-  
28 ties they visit; and

29 WHEREAS it is not unusual for other states and local political entities

1 to grant certain special benefits and gratuities to selected classes of  
2 people; and

3 WHEREAS, during the off-season fall, winter and spring months, the state  
4 ferries frequently operate at less than full capacity; therefore, if official  
5 school groups and recreational groups were permitted to travel without cost,  
6 or at reduced cost, respectively, the foot-passenger traffic would swell as  
7 well as revenue at no significant increase in cost because the vessels of the  
8 Alaska Marine Highway operate at a relatively high fixed cost whether "on  
9 line" or not;

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is  
11 respectfully requested to direct the Division of Marine Transportation to  
12 initiate a program whereby official school activity groups may travel on  
13 state ferries for no fare and recreational groups may travel on state ferries  
14 for reduced fares, provided that travel shall be on a space-available basis  
15 only and between two Alaskan points of embarkation from the month of November  
16 through the following month of April.