

Introduced: 4/5/78
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 119 am
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the use of herbicides on road-
6 sides.

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

8 WHEREAS the division of highways, Department of Transportation and Pub-
9 lic Facilities, is spraying herbicides on foliage on roadsides in an attempt
10 to maintain an unobstructed view of the road ahead for the safety of motor-
11 ists; and

12 WHEREAS this program flies in the face of experience which has shown that
13 herbicides only cause unwanted plants to drop their leaves, without killing
14 them; and

15 WHEREAS, regardless of the degree of care with which this program is
16 undertaken, the wind can carry the spray to areas outside the highway right-
17 of-way; and

18 WHEREAS herbicides also indiscriminately kill grass and flowers, to the
19 detriment of the appearance and resistance to erosion of roadsides; and

20 WHEREAS the use of herbicides can result in damage to the beekeeping
21 industry; and

22 WHEREAS the use of complex chemicals along Alaska highways may also have
23 unknown long-term effects on the human and animal populations of the state;
24 and

25 WHEREAS many Alaska residents have requested the state to halt spraying
26 herbicides;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
28 the Governor to direct the division of highways, Department of Transportation
29 and Public Facilities, to halt its herbicide or defoliant spraying program.

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