Introduced: 5/8/78
Referred: Finance

IN THE HOUSE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 76

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Requesting financial assistance from the federal government to restore state highway damage occasioned by the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline.

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

WHEREAS final completion of the trans-Alaska pipeline brought to conclusion the largest single, privately financed construction project in the history of the nation; and

WHEREAS the project involved movement by highway of unprecedented amounts of materials, supplies and equipment between ports and points of entry to Alaska and project sites scattered from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez; and

WHEREAS the transportation of massive amounts of materials, supplies and equipment across highways constructed during territorial days for far more modest levels of traffic greatly aggravated the deterioration of the state's highway system, especially in Interior and Southcentral Alaska; and

WHEREAS significant mileage of four principal highways used in conjunction with the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline will be subject to similar traffic use, in kind and degree, in the forthcoming construction of the Alcan gas pipeline; and

WHEREAS construction of the means by which to deliver quantities of Alaska's oil and gas to markets in the Lower 48 is a matter of national interest; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska, even with anticipated oil revenues, will still be hard pressed to meet its highway needs; and

WHEREAS the principles of equity demand that all the beneficiaries of

the trans-Alaska pipeline should share in the restoration of the damaged portions of the state highway system, which is estimated to cost between $90 million and $100 million;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Secretary of Transportation is urgently requested to initiate such measures as are necessary to provide federal financial assistance to Alaska in the appropriate amounts to restore those highways damaged by pipeline-related traffic to safe and modern conditions, with principal emphasis upon the repair and restoration of four highways which will be used in the construction of the Alcan gasline, namely the Alaska Highway, the Richardson highway, the Tok Cut-Off, and the Taylor Highway.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States, the Honorable Brock Adams, Secretary, Department of Transportation; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.