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Referred: Commerce and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FERGUSON

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to an exchange of earth stations  
6 for services to be provided by RCA Alascom.

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

8 WHEREAS communications planning and policy are of vital and continuing  
9 interest to the public of the state, affecting the lives and personal welfare  
10 of the citizens at all levels of activity, in both urban and rural areas; and

11 WHEREAS the rural areas of the state have long endured the deprivations  
12 of this lack of telecommunications which have resulted from difficulties in-  
13 herent in the technological state of the art; and

14 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has taken steps over the past few years to  
15 bring telecommunications to Alaskans who have for too long gone without this  
16 modern necessity of informed citizenry; and

17 WHEREAS the State of Alaska filed applications in 1975 for permits to  
18 construct earth stations in rural Alaska; and

19 WHEREAS the State of Alaska has purchased equipment in excess of  
20 \$3 million as its share of participation in an agreement with RCA Alascom; and

21 WHEREAS the purpose and intent of this participation by the state has  
22 been met, thereby bringing to rural and urban Alaska the most modern communi-  
23 cations system in the United States; and

24 WHEREAS the current television demonstration project has proved the  
25 advisability, feasibility and desirability of live television and other  
26 service broadcasts to all parts of the state;

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it is declared in  
28 the public interest to expand television reception capability throughout the  
29 state and provide at least a minimum amount of live broadcast time daily in

1 order to have a more enlightened public; and be it

2       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct  
3 the State of Alaska's withdrawal as a party in the matter of small earth  
4 station ownership pending before the Federal Communications Commission contin-  
5 gent upon the following: Negotiation and signing of an agreement with RCA  
6 Alascom designed to insure television receive only (TVRO) capability in the  
7 remainder of all small earth stations (including mid-route stations), and  
8 provision of service (including transponder) of not less than six hours daily  
9 time to all Alaska stations. The agreement should clearly exchange the  
10 State of Alaska's right, title and interest for equipment purchased for the  
11 aforementioned services.

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