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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 51

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to high unemployment and the
6 timing of the construction of public
7 works projects.

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

9 WHEREAS the high level of unemployment in the state contrasts starkly
10 with the large amount of wealth now available to state government to meet
11 state needs; and

12 WHEREAS the current level of high unemployment results in large part
13 from the cyclical nature of Alaska's economy; and

14 WHEREAS much of the development planned for the immediate future
15 promises to continue the boom-bust cycle; and

16 WHEREAS one of the functions of state government is to undertake the
17 construction of public works needed by the public; and

18 WHEREAS construction of public works could be timed so as to provide
19 jobs during times of high unemployment; and

20 WHEREAS the employment resulting from the construction of public works
21 projects during slump periods would also counter fluctuations in tax revenues
22 arising from the boom-bust cycle, and tend to reduce the effect on public
23 services of the massive influx of job seekers from other states during boom
24 times;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it respectfully
26 requests the Governor to provide employment for presently unemployed
27 Alaskans, by letting contracts for presently funded public works projects at
28 the earliest possible date, and to time implementation of the state's capital
29 improvements program so as to

1 (1) absorb the economic shock of large-scale layoffs after peaks
2 of activity in the private sector; and
3 (2) avoid undue competition with the private sector for available
4 skilled and nonskilled manpower, and for contractors capable of performing
5 public works projects.

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