

Original sponsor: State Affairs Committee

Offered: 5/13/81
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 205 (Resources)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for a state historical, recreational,
7 and wilderness trails, waterways, and campsite system;
8 and providing for an effective date."

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

10 * Section 1. AS 41.20.070 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 41.20.070. ESTABLISHMENT. (a) There is established in the
12 state a system of historical, recreational and wilderness trails, water-
13 ways, and campsites. The system shall include all state trails, water-
14 ways, and campsites designated under AS 41.20.080 and those local
15 government trails, waterways, and campsites nominated by local govern-
16 ments for inclusion in the system which are approved by the commis-
17 sioner of natural resources.

18 (b) The system shall be administered by the Department of
19 Natural Resources, division of parks.

20 * Sec. 2. AS 41.20.080 is repealed and reenacted to read:

21 Sec. 41.20.080. SELECTION. (a) The Department of Natural Re-
22 sources, in consultation with the Departments of Fish and Game and
23 Transportation and Public Facilities, shall designate a system of
24 wilderness trails, waterways, and campsites throughout the state.
25 Significant in the selection shall be the scenic, recreational, his-
26 toric, natural, or cultural qualities of the areas through which the
27 trails and waterways may pass.

28 (b) Trails, waterways, and campsites designated under this section
29 shall

1 (1) serve the recreational needs of a substantial number of
2 people;

3 (2) provide access to areas of historical, natural, or
4 recreational interest, including but not limited to other publicly
5 owned land and resources;

6 (3) protect, provide for, or enhance the use and enjoyment
7 of publicly owned land or resources by the public;

8 (4) provide linkage with other existing or potential units
9 of the system, including those located on federal or municipal land;

10 (5) contribute to the development of tourism;

11 (6) be included in an existing state or local government
12 capital improvement plan; or

13 (7) be otherwise consistent with long-range planning for
14 recreation, tourism, preservation of historical landmarks, protection
15 of traditional uses, or economic development;

16 (8) be unpaved.

17 (c) When practicable, trails designated to be part of this system
18 should follow traditional routes. When a trail is designated for its
19 historic value, the historic route shall be designated as the official
20 Alaska trail system unit. However, the commissioner may alter the
21 historic route if changing natural conditions of the land have rendered
22 the historic route infeasible or if portions of an historic route
23 cannot be located or the existing land status necessitates certain
24 rerouting to make the trail whole.

25 (d) The Department of Natural Resources may acquire the trail
26 sites selected under this section by grant, gift, purchase, lease,
27 dedication or prescription and hold them in the name of the state.
28 However, nothing in this chapter requires the transfer of title to land
29 within an existing or proposed unit of the system from a municipality

1 to the state or the transfer of maintenance or management responsibili-
2 ties except as may be contained in an agreement between the parties.
3 The Department of Natural Resources is also authorized to enter into
4 cooperative management agreements with federal agencies, municipal
5 governments, and private landowners to carry out the purposes of
6 AS 41.20.070 - 41.20.125.

7 (e) Trails, waterways, or campsites designated or acquired under
8 this section shall contain sufficient reservations of land to provide
9 for the purposes for which the unit is established.

10 (f) Money appropriated by the legislature to carry out the pur-
11 poses of AS 41.20.070 - 41.20.125 may be expended on any units within
12 the system, including portions of the system owned by municipalities,
13 and may be spent on management, maintenance, and administration of
14 existing units and planning or acquisition of proposed units. In
15 accordance with appropriations, the Department of Natural Resources,
16 division of parks, shall make payments to municipalities for these
17 purposes.

18 * Sec. 3. AS 41.20.090 is amended to read:

19 Sec. 41.20.090. UNIFORM MARKERS [MARKER]. The commissioner of
20 natural resources shall establish a uniform comprehensive statewide
21 system of markers [MARKER] for the historical, recreational, and
22 wilderness trails, waterways, and campsites system, including appro-
23 prate information of historical, geological, biological, or other
24 significance.

25 * Sec. 4. AS 41.20.100 is amended to read:

26 Sec. 41.20.100. REGULATIONS. The commissioner of natural re-
27 sources shall adopt [PROMULGATE] regulations concerning the use,
28 management, development, and administration of the trails and for the
29 inclusion of local government trails within the system. The commis-

1 sioner shall also adopt regulations relating to payments of money to
2 municipalities (under AS 41.20.080(f)) to carry out the purposes of
3 AS 41.20.070 - 41.20.125.

4 * Sec. 5. AS 41.20 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 Sec. 41.20.105. TRAILS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA. The Department
6 of Natural Resources may enter into cooperative agreements with local
7 governments for the acquisition, development, and marking of trails
8 within the local government area.

9 * Sec. 6. AS 41.20.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (c) In accordance with plans developed jointly with the division
11 of parks, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall
12 develop and construct trail heads to serve the trail system, and shall
13 develop and provide for safe and adequate public access to waterways in
14 the system. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
15 shall incorporate these trail heads and means of access to waterways in
16 the design and development of all state highway projects which affect
17 the system.

18 * Sec. 7. AS 41.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

19 Sec. 41.20.115. INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL. The division of tourism
20 shall prepare informational material for state and national distribu-
21 tion promoting the use of state historical, recreational, and wilder-
22 ness trails, waterways, and campsites and shall coordinate this promo-
23 tional material with information and advertising promoting tourism to
24 state parks and historical sites.

25 Sec. 41.20.125. REPORT. (a) By the first Monday in January of
26 each year the division of parks shall file with the governor and the
27 legislature a report showing trails, waterways, and campsites included
28 in the system, arrangements made or entered into for use, development,
29 maintenance, or marking of units within the system, and money expended

1 or committed for these purposes.

2 (b) The division shall prepare and maintain a five-year develop-
3 ment plan incorporating nominations by municipalities of trails for
4 inclusion within the system. The plan shall be included in its annual
5 report.

6 * Sec. 8. This Act takes effect July 1, 1981.
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