

Introduced: 2/26/81  
Referred: Transportation

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MOSS, BROWN AND PHILLIPS

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting the President to direct  
6 the creation of a utility corridor  
7 for the extension of the Alaska  
8 Railroad to the Canadian border.

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

10 WHEREAS it is essential that transportation links be developed if  
11 Alaska, and especially interior Alaska, is ever to attain its full potential;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, traditionally, railroad systems have been in the forefront of  
14 the development of new territories, no matter where they have existed in the  
15 world; and

16 WHEREAS the Yukon Territory is in the same position as Alaska in that  
17 transportation systems are needed to aid further development; and

18 WHEREAS it would seem logical and proper that the Alaska Railroad  
19 should connect with the Canadian railway system at some strategically  
20 located point; and

21 WHEREAS such a transportation linkup would be of vast benefit to  
22 Alaska, the Nation, and the Yukon; and

23 WHEREAS the designation of land for extension of the Alaska Railroad  
24 should include a corridor wide enough to accommodate the state's future  
25 transportation and utility needs in the area; and

26 WHEREAS the Alaska Railroad has in its enabling Act, The Alaska Rail-  
27 road Act (43 U.S.C. 975 - 975(g)), authority to extend its track up to 1,000  
28 miles in length;

29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

1 the President of the United States to direct the Secretary of Transportation  
2 to exercise the eminent domain authority found within the Alaska Railroad  
3 Act (43 U.S.C. 975 - 975(g)) to acquire sufficient land for the extension of  
4 the Alaska Railroad along a utility corridor to the Canadian border.

5 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan,  
6 President of the United States; the Honorable Drew Lewis, Secretary of  
7 Transportation; Mr. John M. Sullivan, Administrator of the Federal Railroad  
8 Administration; Mr. Frank H. Jones, General Manager of the Alaska Railroad;  
9 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.  
10 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the  
11 Alaska delegation in Congress.