

Introduced: 1/30/81
Referred: Transportation

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FERGUSON

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.6

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to construction of a deep
6 water port facility in Nome.

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

8 WHEREAS it is essential to the development of the City of Nome that a
9 deep water port facility be constructed to eliminate exorbitant fees for the
10 transportation of resources and goods; and

11 WHEREAS the City of Nome is in the process of constructing a port
12 facility; and

13 WHEREAS in order to build the port facility a causeway must be con-
14 structed extending outward from the shoreline 3,600 feet; and

15 WHEREAS a permit from the United States Corps of Engineers must be
16 obtained before the causeway can be constructed; and

17 WHEREAS the United States Bureau of Land Management has lodged an
18 objection with the United States Corps of Engineers to granting a permit for
19 the causeway unless the state waives claim to the additional submerged land
20 which would result from constructing the causeway; and

21 WHEREAS the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Law
22 have both denied the request for the state to waive claims to the submerged
23 land which would result from constructing the causeway; and

24 WHEREAS the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Law
25 have approved a request for a waiver of state claims to submerged land in
26 the past; and

27 WHEREAS to deny a waiver of state claims in this case would result in
28 litigation which would be costly and unnecessary for both the state and
29 Nome; and

1 WHEREAS the residents of the Nome area will continue to pay exorbitant
2 fees for transportation of goods if construction of the deep water port
3 facility is delayed; and

4 WHEREAS failure to complete construction of the deep water port would
5 result in the loss of economic opportunity, a delay in developing natural
6 resources, and loss of jobs in an area with unemployment as high as 80
7 percent;

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
9 respectfully requested to direct the Department of Natural Resources and the
10 Department of Law to approve the waiver of state claims to additional sub-
11 merged land which would result from constructing the causeway so that the
12 deep water port facility in Nome can be constructed.

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