

Original sponsor: Hohman by request

Offered: 4/9/81  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18 (State Affairs)

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 an international transportation link be  
11 developed if Alaska is ever to attain its full potential; and

12 WHEREAS, traditionally, railroad systems have been in the forefront of  
13 the development of new territories; and

14 WHEREAS the Yukon Territory and British Columbia are in the same posi-  
15 tion as Alaska in that transportation systems are needed to aid further  
16 development; and

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

20 WHEREAS such a transportation linkup would be of mutual benefit to  
21 Alaska, the United States, and Canada; and

22 WHEREAS members of Canadian governments have expressed a willingness  
23 for talks concerning an international rail connection; and

24 WHEREAS President Reagan spoke many times during his campaign of using  
25 the vast storehouse of vital energy resources in Alaska; 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; and

29 WHEREAS sec. 501(a) of P.L. 94 - 579 of October 21, 1976, authorizes

1 the establishment of rights-of-way by the Secretary of the Interior over  
2 public domain land; and

3 WHEREAS the President, under authority granted to him by the Alaska  
4 Railroad Act of 1914, could eliminate a vast amount of red tape, delay, and  
5 excessive cost to government;

6 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
7 the President of the United States to direct the Secretary of the Interior  
8 to create a utility corridor for the extension of the Alaska Railroad to the  
9 Canadian border as described in Alaska Department of Transportation and  
10 Public Facilities Project X20089.

11 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan,  
12 President of the United States; the Honorable James G. Watt, Secretary of  
13 the Interior; the Honorable Drew Lewis, Secretary of Transportation; the  
14 Honorable Robert Burford, Director-Designate of the Bureau of Land Manage-  
15 ment; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,  
16 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of  
17 the Alaska delegation in Congress.