

Introduced: 6/20/81
Referred: Transportation

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FERGUSON

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 53

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting the National Park Service
6 to improve an old mining road through
7 the north addition to Denali National
8 Park and Preserve and to extend the
9 road to the McKinley Park Road at
10 Wonder Lake-Kantishna.

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

12 WHEREAS an old mine road, constructed by the state to provide access
13 between the Alaska Railroad to Healy and the Toklat River valley to obtain
14 access to the Stampede Mine antimony deposits that were worked during World
15 War II, has fallen into disrepair; and

16 WHEREAS the road now falls within portions of the Denali National Park
17 and Preserve, as established by the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Act
18 (P.L. 96-487); and

19 WHEREAS these additions to the Denali National Park and Preserve were
20 established, according to the Congressional report issued with the 1980
21 federal Act, "to support populations of moose, wolf, and caribou as part of
22 an integral ecosystem [so that] public enjoyment of these outstanding wild-
23 life values would thus continue to be assured"; and

24 WHEREAS the old mine road ends at the Stampede Mine in the Toklat River
25 valley, but could be extended along the watershed of that river to the vicin-
26 ity of Kantishna and Wonder Lake providing a road loop within the Denali
27 National Park and Preserve; and

28 WHEREAS the Kantishna Hills-Dunkle Mine area of the park and preserve
29 have been identified by the Alaska National Interest Lands Act as worthy of
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1 special evaluation and study for, among other reasons, the potential value
2 of wildlife and mineral resources; and

3 WHEREAS the tragic accident that recently occurred within Denali
4 National Park underscores the need for improved transportation facilities
5 within the park; and

6 WHEREAS the reconstruction and extension of the north addition road
7 would provide a transportation facility that would benefit visitors to
8 Denali National Park and Preserve and serve as an alternative road for
9 further mineral evaluation and development work;

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the National Park
11 Service is respectfully requested to prepare plans for reconstruction of the
12 old Stampede Mine road through the north addition to Denali National Park
13 and Preserve and its extension to the vicinity of Wonder Lake and Kantishna.

14 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable James G. Watt,
15 Secretary of the Interior; to Mr. Ray Arnett, Assistant Secretary of the
16 Department of the Interior for Parks and Wildlife; and to the Honorable Ted
17 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable
18 Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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