

Introduced: 2/28/83
Referred: Transportations
and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY RODEY, FERGUSON, RAY,
ZIEGLER AND ELIASON

2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to travel by senior citizens
6 aboard vessels of the state marine
7 highway system.

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

9 WHEREAS, since 1974, in response to House Concurrent Resolution
10 No. 52, the state marine highway system has provided for travel on ferries
11 by persons 65 years of age and older on a space-available basis within
12 Alaska without charge during the months of November to April, inclusive;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, during 1980, in response to Legislative Resolve No. 2, 1980,
15 the period of free passage for older Alaskans aboard state marine highway
16 vessels was extended to October 1 to May 15 inclusive; and

17 WHEREAS this service has been used by increasing numbers of older
18 Alaskans, permitting travel on the marine highway system at no cost while
19 increasing the number of foot passengers on vessels of the system; and

20 WHEREAS the policy of free passage for older persons allows only
21 passage without cost during the "off-season", is not extended to other
22 services for senior citizens traveling aboard vessels, and in fact requires
23 older persons to pay full costs of lodging; and

24 WHEREAS many senior citizens find it difficult to use vessels of the
25 marine highway system because of the unavailability and high cost of lodg-
26 ing;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
28 the Governor to direct the commissioner of transportation and public facil-
29 ities to direct the division of marine highways to extend free passage on

1 the Aurora, Le Conte, Chilkat, Tustumena, and Bartlett, to senior citizens
2 during every month of the year to permit them to travel between Alaskan
3 ports on a space-available basis; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor direct the division of marine high-
5 ways to investigate the possibility of making staterooms aboard state
6 ferries available at a reduced rate to senior citizens when traveling
7 between Alaskan ports.