

Offered: 5/29/84
Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: V. Fischer

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19 (Resources)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to a statewide system of
6 trails.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS Alaska has many historical, recreational, and wilderness
9 trails, waterways, and campsites; and
10 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to develop a statewide
11 trails system to increase recreational opportunities for residents and
12 visitors alike; and
13 WHEREAS it is necessary that the state develop a method of protecting
14 known trails from loss from public ownership; and
15 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to protect, provide
16 for, and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned land and resources
17 by the public; and
18 WHEREAS a statewide trails system would provide access to areas of
19 historical, natural, or recreational interest; and
20 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to provide a method
21 for the connection of state trails with other existing or potential units
22 of a statewide system of trails, including trails located on federal or
23 municipal land; and
24 WHEREAS there is currently no comprehensive statewide plan for devel-
25 oping a trails system or including trails nominated by local governments
26 for inclusion in the state system; and
27 WHEREAS tourism constitutes a major industry in the state and the
28 development of recreational opportunities through a statewide system of
29 trails is in the public interest; and

1 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to encourage state
2 agencies to work cooperatively to reserve and develop trail heads to serve
3 a statewide system of trails; and

4 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to design, designate
5 and develop trails, trailheads, and public access areas in conjunction with
6 the construction of transportation and other public works projects; and

7 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to develop standards
8 and guidelines for inclusion of trails into a statewide system of trails;
9 and

10 WHEREAS information to members of the public about the use and loca-
11 tion of state trails is necessary to ensure safe and maximum public enjoy-
12 ment of publicly owned land and resources;

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the governor is
14 respectfully requested to direct appropriate state agencies to develop a
15 plan for a comprehensive statewide system of trails that will

16 (1) provide for standards, procedures, and management guidelines
17 for designating trails within a statewide trails system;

18 (2) provide access to areas of historical, natural, or recrea-
19 tional interests;

20 (3) protect and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned
21 land and resources by the public;

22 (4) protect existing trails now in public ownership and access
23 from loss to the public;

24 (5) propose a state and local government capital improvement
25 plan which includes inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the
26 design, development and management of a statewide system of trails; and be
27 it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to report
29 to the First Session of the Fourteenth Legislature on progress in the

- 1 development and implementation of a statewide trails system plan, including
- 2 recommendations to the legislature for statutory changes.