

Offered: 3/19/85
Referred: Rules

Original sponsors: Cato, Thompson,
Adams, et al

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16 (Transportation)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION
5 Relating to essential air service.
6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
7 WHEREAS Alaskan air carriers are recipients of federal funding under
8 the U.S. Department of Transportation Essential Air Service program; and
9 WHEREAS the President of the United States has proposed a budget for
10 fiscal year 1986 that would eliminate the Essential Air Service program;
11 and
12 WHEREAS under the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-504)
13 Congress provided that the program would continue until 1988; and
14 WHEREAS more than 38 Alaska communities would be directly and ad-
15 versely impacted, and dozens of others would be indirectly impacted by
16 elimination of the funding; and
17 WHEREAS the Essential Air Service program provides communities with
18 necessary passenger and cargo service; and
19 WHEREAS a lack of a state highway system forces people in Alaska to be
20 dependent on air travel; and
21 WHEREAS Alaskan air operators have been developing free market alter-
22 natives consistent with the deregulation of air transportation and the
23 scheduled termination of the subsidy in 1988; and
24 WHEREAS a reduction or elimination of funds for the Essential Air
25 Service program at this time will almost certainly cause a reduction or
26 elimination of air service to those communities where it is not econom-
27 ically feasible to maintain present service without this program;
28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Congress fully
29 fund the Essential Air Service program and that the U.S. Department of

1 Transportation adhere to the scheduled 1988 timetable for elimination of
2 the program.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
4 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush, Vice-
5 President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honor-
6 able Robert Dole, Majority Leader of the Senate; the Honorable Thomas P.
7 "Tip" O'Neill Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the
8 Honorable Elizabeth Dole, Secretary of Transportation; and to the Honorable
9 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the
10 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation
11 in Congress.