

Offered: 5/2/85
Referred: Finance

Original sponsors: Coghill, Abood,
Bennett, et al

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10 (Transportation)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting that the Department of Natu-
6 ral Resources and the Department of
7 Transportation and Public Facilities
8 expedite the identification and estab-
9 lishment of rights-of-way for roads and
10 trails on federal Bureau of Land Manage-
11 ment plats which qualify under RS 2477.

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

13 WHEREAS the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980
14 placed 124 million acres of land in Alaska into 71 federal conservation
15 units, and outlined specific use requirements and restrictions for those
16 units; and

17 WHEREAS there was no provision for establishing or protecting a trans-
18 portation system in the development of comprehensive management plans for
19 each conservation unit by the responsible federal management agency; and

20 WHEREAS several of the comprehensive management plans have been com-
21 pleted without recognition of existing roads and trails, preventing public
22 access through these units to state and private lands and to state waters;
23 and

24 WHEREAS comprehensive management plans for a minimum of nine national
25 park and preserve units and five fish and wildlife refuge units are to be
26 completed during calendar year 1985; and

27 WHEREAS the federal statutory authority for the establishment of
28 recognized rights-of-way for roads and trails is contained in RS 2477 (43
29 U.S.C. sec. 932); and

1 WHEREAS the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of
2 Transportation and Public Facilities on September 28, 1984, signed a Memo-
3 randum of Understanding with the federal Bureau of Land Management involv-
4 ing the northern region of Alaska only, establishing the procedure under
5 which the rights-of-way could be recognized on Bureau of Land Management
6 plats and in comprehensive plans for conservation units;

7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor
8 instruct the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Trans-
9 portation and Public Facilities to immediately develop, in consultation
10 with other affected land owners and managers, and propose a Memorandum of
11 Understanding with the Bureau of Land Management relative to the remainder
12 of the state; and be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor instruct the state agencies in-
14 volved to affirmatively solicit information from miners, engineers, land
15 surveyors, environmentalists, outdoor groups, landholders, or other persons
16 or organizations that may have knowledge of the historic use of roads and
17 trails to assist the departments in the identification of those roads and
18 trails that could qualify under the provisions of RS 2477 (43 U.S.C. sec.
19 932) for addition to the state transportation system, and that may be
20 useful to the federal agencies developing comprehensive management plans
21 for the various Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation units; and be
22 it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor instruct the involved state
24 agencies to develop draft policies regarding management, maintenance,
25 liability, vacation, categories, widths, and other relevant concerns
26 related to RS 2477 roads and trails, and that the agencies review these
27 draft policies with affected landowners and managers, and then present
28 these draft policies to the legislature during the second session of the
29 Fourteenth Alaska State Legislature.

1 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Shef-
2 field, Governor of the State of Alaska, to the Honorable Esther Wunnicke,
3 Commissioner of Natural Resources, to the Honorable Richard J. Knapp,
4 Commissioner of Transportation and Public Facilities, and to Michael J.
5 Penfold, State Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

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