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Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services and Resources

5-1727A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Encouraging mining education and earth

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science programs within the state.

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

8 WHEREAS the extraction of minerals from the earth has supplied mate-
9 rials to open the doors of progress throughout history; and

10 WHEREAS minerals and their use are vital to the continuation of civi-
11 lization; and

12 WHEREAS the ability of the Alaska mining industry to survive, prosper,
13 and be internationally competitive is vital to the economic well-being of
14 future generations of Alaskans; and

15 WHEREAS the University of Alaska was originally a land grant school as
16 the Alaska School of Mines and Agriculture and was dedicated to the orderly
17 development of minerals and arable land in the Territory of Alaska; and

18 WHEREAS the School of Mines contributed during territorial days to the
19 establishment of a prosperous mining industry within the state; and

20 WHEREAS the increased interest of major mining companies in Alaskan
21 minerals has led to the understanding that a trained and knowledgeable
22 workforce is required to operate the new mines; and

23 WHEREAS the University of Alaska Southeast, in cooperation with the
24 mining and petroleum training services of the University of Alaska
25 Anchorage, has initiated such a training program; and

26 WHEREAS the concepts for the training program were developed by the
27 Southeast Regional Mining Advisory Committee; and

28 WHEREAS there is a statewide need for programs that train mine workers
29 and for local and regional mining advisory committees; and

1 WHEREAS the mining industry and the federal government have shown a
2 willingness to fund these programs, an example of which is the Greens Creek
3 Mine Training Project; and

4 WHEREAS the Greens Creek Mine Training Program is a pilot program that
5 will be a blueprint for other mine training programs of other regions of
6 the state;

7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
8 respectfully requested to direct the Alaska Minerals Commission to work
9 cooperatively with the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska and the
10 Southeast Regional Mining Advisory Committee to review the educational and
11 labor needs of the emerging mining industry in the state and make recommen-
12 dations for the achievement of those needs to the First Session of the
13 Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature; and be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska
15 is requested to assess the statewide capacity of the university to meet
16 future mineral development needs and prepare a plan to meet those needs and
17 to present the plan to the First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State
18 Legislature.

19 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Board of Regents of the
20 University of Alaska.