

Original sponsor(s): Transportation Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58 (Trsp)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to the costs of Alaska airline
6 travel.

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

8 WHEREAS airline travel is an essential means of transportation for the
9 people of the state; and

10 WHEREAS the competitive market forces in many other states have caused
11 commercial air fares to decline for those states, but the competitive
12 forces that would cause a significant decline in commercial air fares do
13 not exist in Alaska; and

14 WHEREAS commercial air fares within the state are prohibitively expen-
15 sive and continue to escalate; and

16 WHEREAS airline passengers traveling to and from the state pay a
17 significantly higher air fare per air mile than passengers traveling to and
18 from other states; and

19 WHEREAS airlines that engage in price wars in the Lower 48 use the
20 revenue from high air fares in Alaska to offset their losses in other
21 states; and

22 WHEREAS the commercial air carriers servicing the state appear to be
23 setting mutually beneficial air fares that prevent a free and open competi-
24 tive market from existing in the state;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
26 the Governor, the Attorney General, and the commissioner of transportation
27 and public facilities to investigate what barriers prevent the existence in
28 the state of an open and competitive airline industry that would result in
29 the reduction of the cost of airline travel for residents of the state; and

1 be it

2 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully re-
3 quests that a report of the findings resulting from the investigation be
4 submitted to the Alaska State Legislature and the United States Secretary
5 of Transportation within the first two weeks of the Seventeenth Alaska
6 State Legislature; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the governor
8 to meet with the officers or directors of the major air carriers that serve
9 Alaska to discuss possible methods of reducing air fares, including
10 reduction of the costs of airline operations.