

Original sponsors: Brown, Goll,
and M.Davis

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 11 (Transportation)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to Congressional reauthoriza-
6 tion of the Clean Air Act.

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

8 WHEREAS the people of the state are committed to healthful air for
9 residents of the state to breathe; and

10 WHEREAS the air in Anchorage and Fairbanks periodically contains
11 levels of carbon monoxide during cold weather conditions that exceed air
12 quality standards; and

13 WHEREAS carbon monoxide presents a health risk to humans because it
14 robs the body of oxygen and is a particular health risk to the elderly,
15 infants, pregnant women, and individuals with chronic heart and lung dis-
16 eases; and

17 WHEREAS carbon monoxide is a product of inefficient combustion and at
18 least 90 percent of the carbon monoxide in the air of Anchorage and
19 Fairbanks results from automobile exhausts during the cold winter months;
20 and

21 WHEREAS the carbon monoxide levels in Anchorage and Fairbanks can be
22 reduced by the adoption of two primary strategies: by reducing the number
23 of automobile miles traveled during the cold winter months and by reducing
24 the amount of carbon monoxide each vehicle emits; and

25 WHEREAS the expanded use of mass transit and ride-sharing will reduce
26 the number of automobile miles traveled, thus reducing the amount of carbon
27 monoxide emitted; and

28 WHEREAS the Anchorage and Fairbanks municipal governments are present-
29 ly restricted by Federal law in their ability to use Federal gas tax funds

1 to expand mass transit and other more efficient transportation measures;
2 and

3 WHEREAS the Environmental Protection Agency now certifies new vehicles
4 for carbon monoxide emissions at temperatures ranging between 68 and 86
5 degrees Fahrenheit, instead of a range more appropriate to colder climates;
6 and

7 WHEREAS a cold temperature certification program could reduce actual
8 carbon monoxide emissions by as much as 46 percent; and

9 WHEREAS the Congress of the United States is now in the process of
10 reauthorizing and amending the Clean Air Act;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Congress to
12 support the reauthorization of the Clean Air Act with amendments noted in
13 this resolution; and be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Congress
15 to increase mass transit funding as a means of mitigating the adverse
16 effects of transportation related air pollution; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that the reauthorization of the Clean Air Act require
18 the Environmental Protection Agency to certify motor vehicles for carbon
19 monoxide emission compliance at 20 degrees Fahrenheit.

20 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Dan Quayle,
21 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the
22 Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; and to
23 the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators,
24 and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
25 delegation in Congress.