

Original sponsor(s): Transportation Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 89 (Transportation)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to federal funding for develop-
6 ment of the airport at Saint Paul,
7 Alaska.

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

9 WHEREAS title to the airport at Saint Paul, Alaska was transferred to
10 the State of Alaska under the terms of the Fur Seal Act Amendments of 1983
11 (P.L. 98-129) and a Transfer of Property Agreement entered into
12 February 11, 1984; and

13 WHEREAS the local Native corporation agreed to lease or sell land
14 needed for expansion of the airport, and state and federal agencies have
15 committed themselves to take the steps necessary to implement the Transfer
16 of Property Agreement; and

17 WHEREAS the economic well-being of Saint Paul, Alaska, is largely
18 dependent upon the rapidly growing crab, surimi, and bottomfish industry;
19 and

20 WHEREAS the Saint Paul airport facility provides the only year-round
21 access to and from the community; and

22 WHEREAS the Saint Paul airport facility is critical to ensuring that
23 the community's commercial and social ties with the state and nation are
24 maintained; and

25 WHEREAS the Saint Paul airport is classified as a nonprimary commer-
26 cial service airport under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP); and

27 WHEREAS nonprimary airports are only eligible to receive AIP discre-
28 tionary funding and limited State of Alaska primary entitlement funding;
29 and

1 WHEREAS AIP discretionary funding has not been available for the Saint
2 Paul airport due to the low priority assigned to development of the air-
3 port; and

4 WHEREAS the annual level of primary entitlement funding is generally
5 not sufficient to accommodate the improvement needs at state primary air-
6 ports and is not sufficient to accommodate the needs of the Saint Paul
7 airport; and

8 WHEREAS the Airport Improvement Program identifies specific set-aside
9 discretionary funding for nonprimary airports and safety improvement proj-
10 ects;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
12 the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Adminis-
13 tration, to allocate a level of discretionary funding to the State of
14 Alaska that will allow for the development of the Saint Paul airport.

15 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Samuel K.
16 Skinner, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation; the Honorable
17 Admiral James B. Busey, U.S.N. (Ret.), Administrator of the Federal Avia-
18 tion Administration; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable
19 Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Repre-
20 sentative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.