

BY SEN. FRANK, Coghill

1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE BILL NO. 491

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for the design and construction of
7 a Trans-Alaska Highway."

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

9 * Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds

10 (1) economic development demands a viable transportation system,
11 including strategically located highways;

12 (2) full development of Alaska's mineral and tourist potential
13 will not occur until a viable transportation network is established in the
14 state;

15 (3) the state must assume leadership in further developing the
16 highway system in Alaska;

17 (4) the state should commit additional resources to highway
18 planning and design and acquisition of highway rights-of-way;

19 (5) a transportation corridor between the Dalton Highway and
20 Bornite was established by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation
21 Act;

22 (6) a Trans-Alaska Highway should be built from Prospect on the
23 Dalton Highway through Bettles westward to Bornite and the mineral rich
24 Ambler-Kobuk region and then to Nome;

25 (7) surface transportation to Nome will expedite the opening of
26 Interior Alaska for intensive prospecting and expansion of business, indus-
27 try, and tourism.

28 * Sec. 2. AUTHORIZATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANS-ALASKA HIGHWAY.

29 (a) The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall design

1 and construct, subject to appropriation, a Trans-Alaska Highway from Pros-
2 pect on the Dalton Highway through Bettles and Bornite to Nome.

3 (b) Notwithstanding AS 19.10.170(b), the Department of Transportation
4 and Public Facilities shall prepare the initial design of the Trans-Alaska
5 Highway.