

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FAIKS, KELLY, RODEY,
KERTTULA AND STURGULEWSKI

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to making state facilities and

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national parks in Alaska accessible to

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elderly and handicapped persons.

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

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WHEREAS more than 20 percent of the United States population is of

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retirement age; and

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WHEREAS 13 percent of all tourist travelers have a disability; and

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WHEREAS elderly persons have more disposable income and discretionary

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time than any other population segment; and

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WHEREAS Alaska may be perceived by some to be a beautiful yet rugged

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wilderness accessible mainly to the fleet of foot; and

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WHEREAS increasing tourism by providing a significant incentive for

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elderly and handicapped persons to tour the state will greatly benefit the

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Alaska economy; and

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WHEREAS tourism is an industry that has little negative effect on the

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environment; and

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WHEREAS projects that provide greater access for elderly and handi-

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capped persons are labor-intensive investments; and

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WHEREAS greater access for elderly and handicapped persons will

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enhance Alaska's image as a destination that is sensitive to both people

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and the environment;

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

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the governor to

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(1) examine ways of making state facilities more accessible to

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elderly and handicapped persons; and

1 (2) promote Alaska's accessibility to elderly and handicapped
2 persons in appropriate marketing and promotional programs.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald P.
4 Hodel, U.S. Secretary of the Interior; Boyd Evison, National Park Service,
5 Alaska Regional Director; Mark Hickey, commissioner of transportation and
6 public facilities; Larry Mercurieff, acting commissioner of commerce and
7 economic development; and Judith M. Brady, commissioner of natural
8 resources.