

BY SEN. KERTTULA

1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to supplementary funding for

6

construction and upgrade of the highway

7

system in Alaska.

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

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WHEREAS the State of Alaska comprises one-fifth of the area of the
10 nation and is the largest area in the nation without roads connecting
11 regional economic and governmental centers with the state and national
12 highway systems; and

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WHEREAS the State of Alaska received minimal funds at the time of its
14 admission to the Union that were totally insufficient to upgrade the high-
15 way system of the state to the same standards as the highways of other
16 states; and

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WHEREAS much of the highway system in Alaska does not meet federal
18 standards, including 42 percent of the interstate system of the state that
19 is classified as deficient by the federal Department of Transportation; and

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WHEREAS a large proportion of the land served by the highway system in
21 the state is federal land; and

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WHEREAS a well developed and well maintained highway system is impor-
23 tant to an effective military presence in the state; and

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WHEREAS the development of highway access to the contiguous 48 states
25 enhances the strategic role of the state in the defense of the nation; and

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WHEREAS additional funds are necessary to construct new highways to
27 connect isolated regional centers with the state and national highway
28 systems and to upgrade the highway system in the state to federal stan-
29 dards;

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
2 the U. S. Department of Transportation and the Congress to provide an
3 additional \$250,000,000 over a four-year period to the State of Alaska, to
4 supplement allocations under the federal aid highway program, for construc-
5 tion of new highways and upgrade of existing highways in Alaska.

6 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Dan Quayle,
7 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the
8 Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives;
9 the Honorable Robert C. Byrd, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Appro-
10 priations; the Honorable Jamie L. Whitten, Chair of the U.S. House of
11 Representatives Committee on Appropriations; the Honorable Samuel K.
12 Skinner, Secretary of the U. S. Department of Transportation; and to the
13 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
14 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delega-
15 tion in Congress.