

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/25/91

Referred: Transportation, Labor & Commerce, Judiciary

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to settlement of litigation over compensation for skycaps at airports.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

3 WHEREAS skycaps at the state's international airports provide an important service to the
4 traveling public and are an essential part of the state's visitor industry; and

5 WHEREAS state and federal law require that employees be paid a minimum wage established
6 by law; and

7 WHEREAS the state has an obligation when establishing contract conditions to assure that those
8 conditions do not prevent contractors from meeting their obligation to pay employees the minimum wage
9 established by law; and

10 WHEREAS from 1980 through 1988, as a result of contractual conditions established by the
11 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, skycaps were not paid the minimum wage required
12 by state and federal law and in fact were required to pay for the privilege of working for gratuities only;
13 and

14 WHEREAS the Department of Labor has ruled that skycaps are now and have always been
15 entitled to receive the minimum wage required by law, and in preliminary court motions in this matter,
16 the court denied the motion of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for a summary
17 judgment against the skycaps and determined that there were disputed issues of fact requiring that the

1 case go to trial; and

2 **WHEREAS** the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities continues to refuse to settle
3 the case, which concerns approximately \$1,801,800 in wages and liquidated damages due the skycaps,
4 and insists upon spending additional money to pursue the case through trial;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct the Department of
6 Transportation and Public Facilities to settle its litigation with the skycaps and rectify the wrong that has
7 been done to them.