

**SENATE BILL NO. 56**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY SENATORS FRANK, Fahrenkamp, Pourchot**

**Introduced: 1/21/91**

**Referred: Transportation and Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the Dalton Highway."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **\* Section 1. FINDINGS, PURPOSE, AND INTENT. (a) The legislature finds**

4 (1) the northern portion of the Dalton Highway possesses unique scenic and recreational  
5 resources of high public value;

6 (2) significant wildlife and fishery resources are present along the Dalton Highway and  
7 represent important resources to highway users for viewing and to local residents for subsistence;

8 (3) current levels of public law enforcement services along the Dalton Highway are not  
9 sufficient to cope with increased use of the highway to ensure the safety of users of the highway, or to  
10 protect fish and wildlife resources;

11 (4) future facilities, both private and public, along the highway should be permitted and  
12 constructed only in accordance with land use plans in order to prevent adverse effects on the scenic,  
13 recreational, or fish and wildlife values of the highway corridor.

14 (b) It is the purpose of this Act to

1 (1) permit public use of a publicly owned and maintained highway; and

2 (2) increase and enhance tourism along the Dalton Highway.

3 (c) It is the intent of the legislature that

4 (1) the opening of the Dalton Highway not adversely affect local fish and wildlife  
5 resources;

6 (2) rigorous monitoring, enforcement, and regulations be implemented to protect fish and  
7 wildlife resources along the highway corridor;

8 (3) future developments in the highway corridor be restricted to nodes of development  
9 of facilities and services along the highway;

10 (4) if land along the highway corridor is transferred to the state, the land should not be  
11 disposed of, or subject to lease, by the state except as provided by a land use plan prepared by the state.

12 \* Sec. 2. AS 19.40.110 is amended to read:

13 Sec. 19.40.110. PUBLIC USE OF [A PORTION OF] THE HIGHWAY. The department  
14 shall maintain the [SECTION OF THE] highway [BETWEEN THE YUKON RIVER AND  
15 DIETRICH CAMP] and shall keep [THAT SECTION OF] the highway open to use by the public  
16 [BETWEEN JUNE 1 AND SEPTEMBER 1 EACH YEAR].

17 \* Sec. 3. AS 19.40.290(2) is amended to read:

18 (2) "highway" means the secondary highway from the Yukon River to a terminus  
19 near the Arctic Ocean.

20