

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS JONES, Eliason, Duncan

Introduced: 1/17/92
Referred: Transportation, Resources

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to energy transmission and surface transportation requirements for Southeast
2 Alaska.

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

4 WHEREAS a transportation and utility corridor plan is vital for improving the economic future
5 of Southeast Alaska and would indicate to the federal government the state's desires for land use within
6 the Tongass National Forest, which comprises the majority of the land in Southeast Alaska; and

7 WHEREAS the traditional industries of fishing, timber, and mining and the developing tourism
8 industry will place increased demands on the energy and transportation requirements for the region and
9 the communities of Southeast Alaska will need reliable, long-term sources of energy for the future; and

10 WHEREAS the most efficient and reliable method for transmitting hydroelectric energy to those
11 communities is through a power grid; and

12 WHEREAS there are many potential hydroelectric sites in the region that can be developed by
13 extension of energy transmission and interconnection facilities; and

14 WHEREAS actions taken by the United States Congress and by the United States Forest Service
15 placing proposed transportation and utility corridors in more restrictive land use classifications would
16 make it more difficult and more costly to develop the corridors; and

1 **WHEREAS** in 1987 and 1988 the Southeast Transportation Utility Corridor (SETUC) planning
2 group, a committee composed of representatives of the state and federal governments, drafted options
3 for transportation and utility corridors for Southeast Alaska and, in 1988, completed a report with maps
4 detailing the location of the recommended corridors;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature affirms and supports the utility and
6 transportation corridor options that the State of Alaska and federal agencies have identified through the
7 planning activities of SETUC for Southeast Alaska; and be it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the legislature strongly recommends that the United States
9 Congress and the United States Forest Service refrain from placing further restrictive land use
10 designations on the identified utility and transportation corridors.

11 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chair, Senate
12 Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee; the Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Chair, Senate Energy
13 and Natural Resources Committee; the Honorable E (Kika) de la Garza, Chair, House Agriculture
14 Committee; the Honorable George Miller, Chair, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; F. Dale
15 Robertson, Chief, United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Michael A. Barton, Regional
16 Forester, Tongass National Forest, U. S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and to the Honorable
17 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
18 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.