

HOUSE BILL NO. 183
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

Introduced: 2/25/93

Referred: Transportation, Resources, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act directing the identification and delineation of a transportation and utility
2 corridor between Fairbanks and the Seward Peninsula for road, rail, pipeline, and
3 electrical transmission purposes; and providing for an effective date."

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

5 * Section 1. FAIRBANKS - SEWARD PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AND
6 UTILITY CORRIDOR. (a) Not later than April 1, 1995, the northern region of the
7 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall identify and delineate a proposed
8 transportation and utility corridor between Fairbanks and the western end of the Seward
9 Peninsula. The corridor shall be sufficient to accommodate construction of

10 (1) a road;

11 (2) an extension of the Alaska Railroad;

12 (3) oil, natural gas, or coal slurry pipelines, or any of them; and

13 (4) an electrical transmission line.

14 (b) In performing the work required by (a) of this section,

1 (1) the railroad alignment and identification of a railroad right-of-way of not
2 less than 500 feet shall guide the identification and delineation of the corridor; and

3 (2) the northern region shall consider the following factors:

4 (A) grade and alignment standards that are commensurate with rail and
5 road construction standards;

6 (B) availability of construction materials;

7 (C) safety;

8 (D) service to adjacent communities;

9 (E) significant environmental concerns;

10 (F) use of public land to the maximum degree possible; and

11 (G) minimization of probable construction costs.

12 (c) Within 90 days after receiving a report transmitting the work of the northern
13 region of the department under (a) of this section, the commissioner of transportation and
14 public facilities shall, in conformity with AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), if
15 necessary, adopt a regulation approving, modifying, or rejecting the proposed corridor.

16 (d) If the commissioner of transportation and public facilities approves or modifies
17 the proposed corridor when presented under (c) of this section,

18 (1) the Department of Natural Resources shall promptly classify, or reclassify,
19 and reserve any state land within the corridor for use as a corridor; and

20 (2) the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall

21 (A) exercise its authority under AS 19.05.040 to acquire rights-of-way
22 across land within the corridor that is subject to the state's power of condemnation;
23 and

24 (B) work with federal officials to secure reclassification and withdrawal
25 of federal land in the corridor for reservations and rights-of-way across the federal land
26 for use as a corridor.

27 (e) Notwithstanding AS 19.10.170(b), in the identification and delineation of the
28 corridor under (a) of this section, the northern region of the department

29 (1) shall use aerial surveying methods to the maximum degree possible;

30 (2) except for contracts necessary under (1) of this subsection, may not contract
31 for surveying, mapping, and engineering and design services; the northern region of the

1 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall perform all work using personnel
2 employed by that department.

3 (f) The requirements of AS 38.05 (Alaska Land Act) relating to classification and
4 reclassification of land are inapplicable to actions taken under this section.

5 (g) In this section, "corridor" means the transportation and utility corridor required to
6 be identified and delineated by (a) of this section.

7 * Sec. 2. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).