

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12(O&G)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON OIL AND GAS

Offered: 2/18/94

Referred: Resources, Transportation, Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE FINKELSTEIN

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the use of natural gas as a motor vehicle fuel in Alaska.

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

3 WHEREAS Alaska has a large natural-gas resource base; and

4 WHEREAS natural gas is available to approximately half of the state's population;

5 and

6 WHEREAS most vehicles are capable of running on natural gas; and

7 WHEREAS all major automobile, truck, and bus manufacturers in the United States

8 are building and road testing prototype natural-gas vehicles; and

9 WHEREAS natural gas is a safe fuel that, if leaked, dissipates into the atmosphere;

10 and

11 WHEREAS natural-gas refueling stations avoid the problem of leaking underground

12 storage tanks; and

13 WHEREAS the federal Clean Air Act amendments of 1990 impose much tougher

14 vehicle emission standards beginning with model year 1994, and natural-gas vehicles can meet

15 most of those standards; and

16 WHEREAS natural-gas vehicles produce significantly lower levels of harmful air

17 pollutants such as benzene than do gasoline or diesel vehicles; and

1 **WHEREAS** Anchorage is a nonattainment area for carbon monoxide, and natural-gas
2 vehicles would emit much less carbon monoxide, thus reducing the need for other attainment
3 measures such as oxygenated fuels; and

4 **WHEREAS** on a per-gallon equivalent, compressed natural gas in Alaska costs less
5 than gasoline; and

6 **WHEREAS** natural-gas vehicles require less maintenance than gasoline or diesel
7 vehicles; and

8 **WHEREAS** over 100 natural-gas vehicles currently operate within Alaska; and

9 **WHEREAS** natural gas could benefit the commercial motor carrier industry through
10 the availability of reliable, inexpensive fuel that will meet the pending low-sulphur
11 requirements of the Clean Air Act; and

12 **WHEREAS** natural gas is a proven performer in the Arctic conditions of Alaska,
13 having been in use in the North Slope Borough for more than 10 years on a year-round basis;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports and encourages the use
15 of natural-gas vehicles in federal, state, municipal, and private automobile, truck, and bus
16 fleets in Alaska; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports and encourages
18 the rapid development of a natural-gas fueling station infrastructure in Alaska; and be it

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports and encourages
20 the cooperative government and industry task force on natural gas vehicles.

21 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Tom Fink, Mayor of the
22 Municipality of Anchorage; to the Honorable Don Gilman, Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula
23 Borough; to the Honorable Ernie Brannon, Mayor of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; to the
24 Honorable John Williams, Mayor of the City of Kenai; to the Honorable George Carte, Mayor
25 of the City of Palmer; to the Honorable Ken Lancaster, Mayor of the City of Soldotna; to the
26 Honorable John Stein, Mayor of the City of Wasilla; to Mr. Jack Froiland, Acting Field Office
27 Manager, General Services Administration; to the Honorable Jerry Covey, commissioner of
28 education; to the Honorable Bruce Campbell, commissioner of transportation and public
29 facilities; to the Honorable John Sandor, commissioner of environmental conservation; to Mr.
30 R. F. Barnes, President, ENSTAR Natural Gas; to Mr. James B. Blasingame, Vice-President
31 of Corporate Affairs, Alaska Railroad Corporation; to Mr. A. L. Wright, Vice-President,
32 Mapco Alaska Petroleum, Inc.; to Mr. Louis R. Thomason, Vice-President for marketing,

- 1 Tesoro Alaska Petroleum, Inc.; to Mr. Roy Lyons, Kenai regional manager, Phillips Petroleum,
- 2 Inc.; to Mr. Ray Latchem, President, Norgaso, Inc.; and to Mr. Frank Dillon, Executive
- 3 Director, Alaska Trucking Association.