

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 338(L&C)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/2/94
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the issuance of revenue bonds for acquisition and
2 construction of the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center for the Ship Creek
3 Landings Project; relating to a study of the feasibility and financial viability of
4 the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center; relating to construction of the
5 Northern Crossroads Discovery Center; and providing for an effective date."

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

7 * Section 1. (a) In furtherance of the state policy under sec. 1(a), ch. 153, SLA 1984 to
8 foster the long-term economic growth and development of the state, the Alaska Railroad
9 Corporation is authorized to issue revenue bonds in the principal amount of not more than
10 \$55,000,000 for the construction and acquisition of the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center
11 for the Ship Creek Landings Project, if the board of directors of the Alaska Railroad
12 Corporation determines after completion of the study conducted under sec. 2 of this Act that
13 the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center is feasible and financially viable. This section

1 constitutes legislative approval of the issuance of bonds by the Alaska Railroad Corporation,
2 as required by AS 42.40.285.

3 (b) The Alaska Railroad Corporation may loan the proceeds from the sale of revenue
4 bonds authorized by this section to a public or private entity that the Alaska Railroad
5 Corporation considers appropriate to acquire, construct, and operate the Northern Crossroads
6 Discovery Center. The Alaska Railroad Corporation may enter into agreements, including
7 leases, with a public or private entity that the Alaska Railroad Corporation considers
8 appropriate to provide for and secure payment of a loan made from the proceeds from the sale
9 of the revenue bonds.

10 (c) The issuance of revenue bonds authorized by this section is subject to
11 AS 42.40.600 - 42.40.700, except that, notwithstanding AS 42.40.630, the bonds are special
12 nonrecourse obligations of the Alaska Railroad Corporation payable only from the revenues
13 and assets of the public or private entity that owns and operates the Northern Crossroads
14 Discovery Center.

15 * Sec. 2. The Alaska Railroad Corporation shall conduct a study of the feasibility and
16 financial viability of the proposed Northern Crossroads Discovery Center for the Ship Creek
17 Landings Project, if a private party, including a potential developer or lessee of the Northern
18 Crossroads Discovery Center, enters into an agreement with the Alaska Railroad Corporation
19 to pay the cost of the study. The Alaska Railroad Corporation shall select the person or firm
20 to conduct the study. Upon receipt of the completed study, the board of directors of the
21 Alaska Railroad Corporation shall determine whether the Northern Crossroads Discovery
22 Center is feasible and financially viable.

23 * Sec. 3. Before construction of the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center begins, the
24 Alaska Railroad Corporation shall require that the public or private entity authorized to design
25 and construct the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center post a payment and performance
26 bond in favor of the Alaska Railroad Corporation to assure completion of the Northern
27 Crossroads Discovery Center.

28 * Sec. 4. Each bond issued under sec. 1 of this Act shall contain on its face a statement
29 that

30 (1) the Alaska Railroad Corporation is not obligated to pay the bond or the
31 interest on the bond except from the revenue or assets pledged for the bond;

1 (2) neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the State of Alaska or
2 of a political subdivision of the state is pledged to the payment of the bond; and

3 (3) the issuance of the bonds does not create a legal or moral debt of the State
4 of Alaska and payment of the bond is not directly or indirectly dependent upon an
5 appropriation by the Alaska State Legislature.

6 * Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).