

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

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/20/94  
Referred: Rules

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)(1)(B), ch. 153, SLA  
8 1984 to foster the long-term economic growth and development of the state, the Alaska  
9 Railroad Corporation is authorized to issue revenue bonds in the principal amount of not more  
10 than \$55,000,000 for the construction and acquisition of the Northern Crossroads Discovery  
11 Center 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 received by the corporation from the public or private entity that owns and operates  
14 the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center. Notwithstanding AS 42.40.630 and 42.40.640, the  
15 Alaska Railroad Corporation may not pledge, mortgage, or assign money, leases, revenue,  
16 agreements, assets, or property of the corporation to the payment of the bonds, except as  
17 expressly provided in this subsection.

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

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

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

1 that

2 (1) the Alaska Railroad Corporation is not obligated to pay the bond or the  
3 interest on the bond except from the revenue or assets received by the corporation from the  
4 public or private entity that owns and operates the Northern Crossroads Discovery Center that  
5 are pledged for the bond;

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

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

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