

# COMMITTEE REPORT

## HOUSE

3/2/81

FURTHER:

(11)

Date: 3/27/81

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on FINANCE has had HCR 1

Relating to reduced rate travel for older Alaskans aboard vessels of the state marine highway system.

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

- do pass  do not pass
- do pass with attached amendments(s)
- replace with CS for HERI (Trsp)  same title  new title
- and recommends do pass
- AND attaches a "Letter of Intent"  New Fiscal Note
- reports it back without recommendation
- referred to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

### MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

Markman

Wahlgren

Freeman

Jan Ort

MM

Debra J. Adams

\_\_\_\_\_

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### MEMBERS HAVING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

D. Not Reconsider Amended - Reason

H. Moore - No Rec.

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\_\_\_\_\_

Jan Ort

CHAIRMAN

Original sponsors: Grussendorf, Cotten,  
Montgomery, et al

Offered: 3/2/81  
Referred: Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1 (Transportation)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to free travel for senior  
6 citizens aboard vessels of the state  
7 marine highway system.

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

9 WHEREAS, since 1974, in response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 52,  
10 the state marine highway system has provided for travel on ferries by persons  
11 65 years of age and older on a space-available basis within Alaska without  
12 charge during the months of November to April, inclusive; and

13 WHEREAS, last year, in response to Legislative Resolve No. 2, 1980, the  
14 period of free passage for older Alaskans aboard state marine highway vessels  
15 was extended to October 1 to May 15 inclusive; and

16 WHEREAS this service has been used by increasing numbers of older  
17 Alaskans, permitting travel on the marine highway system at no cost while  
18 increasing the number of foot passengers on vessels of the system; and

19 WHEREAS the policy of free passage for older persons allows only passage  
20 without cost during the "off-season", is not extended to other services for  
21 senior citizens traveling aboard vessels, and older persons pay full costs  
22 of lodging; and

23 WHEREAS many senior citizens find it difficult to use vessels of the  
24 marine highway system because of the unavailability and high cost of lodging;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
26 the Governor to direct the division of marine highways to extend free passage  
27 to senior citizens during every month of the year to permit them to travel  
28 between Alaskan ports on a space-available basis and to investigate the  
29 possibility of making lodging available to senior citizens at a reduced

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rate.

POSITION PAPER  
ON  
House Concurrent Resolution No. 1

"Relating to reduced rate travel for older Alaskans aboard vessels of the state marine highway system."

The Department of Health and Social Services recognizes that transportation is one of the key services that seniors need. Lack of transportation is often cited as a major obstacle in the provision and receipt of other necessary services such as medical care for the elderly. We believe this is especially true for seniors on low or fixed incomes. Travel expenses have recently been rising dramatically in response to high fuel and food costs. These added costs place an increased burden on these elderly citizen's already tight budgets.

The Department of Health and Social Services endorses the concept contained in this resolution.

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth Muktarian  
Elizabeth Muktarian, Director  
Division of Adult & Aging Services

DATE: 2/19/81

APPROVED BY: Helen D. Beirne  
Helen D. Beirne, Commissioner  
Department of Health and  
Social Services

DATE: 2/19/81

THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

FISCAL NOTE

I. REQUEST  
 Bill/Resolution No. House Concurrent Resolution No. 1  
 Title "Relating to reduced rate travel for older Alaskans aboard vessels of the state"  
 Requested by marine highway system Date 2/19/81

II. FISCAL DETAIL  
 Agency Affected Dept. of Transportation, Public Facilities  
 Program Category Affected \_\_\_\_\_  
 BRU, Program, or Subprogram(s) Affected \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Note: If more than one budget component is affected, separate line-item amounts and funding for each component in the analysis section.)

EXPENDITURES (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 81	FY 82	FY 83	FY 84	FY 85	FY 86
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 COMMODITIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS, ETC.						
<b>TOTAL</b>		-0-				

FUNDING (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER (Specify Fund Source)						

-0-

POSITIONS

FULL TIME						
PART TIME						
TEMPORARY						

-0-

III. ANALYSIS (See Fiscal Note Preparation Instructions, Section III)

IV. DATE 2/19/81 PREPARED BY Imoetha waet  
 AGENCY Div. Adult + Aging Services  
 PHONE 465 3250  
 Original: Legislative Finance  
 cc: Budget and Management  
 Prime Sponsor (First Legislator Named)

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