

SJR

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CITY OF  
UNALAKLEET

BOX 28  
UNALAKLEET, ALASKA  
99684  
(907) 624-3531

February 9, 1981

Mr. Stewart Bigler,  
Regional Director  
National Weather Service  
701 "C" Street  
P.O. Box 23  
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Dear Mr. Bigler:

At the regular Council Meeting, February 3, 1981, a discussion was held on the National Weather Bureau Operation here in Unalakleet. The Council heard once again that our Weather Bureau Station is supposed to go remote and would like to strongly urge our Weather Service be kept manned.

Many reasons were given to our Representative and Senator to keep our Weather Service manned and the most important one was the safety factor. There have been a number of times when our present system had given the wrong weather forecast and it just so happened that a tragic accident has never occurred.

The City Council would like to see our National Weather Station manned and with at least two personnel to carry out a good portion of the airline schedules from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thank you for looking into this matter which is of great importance to safety for our community as well as those who travel within our region.

Sincerely,

Herbert Ivanoff  
Administrator

HI:di

cc: Senator Ted Stevens  
Senator Frank Murkowski  
Representative Don Young  
Nome Office Weather Service

Joe Pleasant - Unalakleet  
Senator Frank Ferguson  
Representative Jack Fuller

E 10/11/81



Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Committee on State Affairs

Pouch V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

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MANNED adj: carrying or performed by a man ("manned" space flight)

From Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary *1980 edition*

Introduced: 2/23/81  
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE SENATE

BY FERGUSON

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the operation, *and staffing* of a  
6 ~~manned~~ weather station by the  
7 National Weather Service at Unala-  
8 kleet.

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

10 WHEREAS the comfort and safety of all Alaskans are increased by the  
11 availability of accurate and timely reports and forecasts of weather condi-  
12 tions; and

13 WHEREAS the climate and topography of this state are such that weather  
14 conditions often change dramatically in a short period of time; and

15 WHEREAS Alaskans rely heavily on air transportation and particularly  
16 small aircraft in the more remote areas of the state; and

17 WHEREAS air travel is particularly susceptible to the impact of changing  
18 weather conditions; and

19 WHEREAS the city of Unalakleet is situated in an area subject to widely  
20 varying weather conditions and where the absence of an extensive road network  
21 results in an increased reliance on travel by air; and

22 WHEREAS Unalakleet has been notified by the National Weather Service  
23 that it intends to terminate its operation, *and support of a ~~manned~~ staffed*  
24 and

25 WHEREAS the operation of an *unstaffed* ~~manned~~ weather station at Unalakleet will  
26 have a deleterious effect on the availability of accurate and timely weather  
27 reports and forecasts for the area;

28 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the National  
29 Weather Service to continue its operation of a ~~manned~~ weather station at

1 Unalakleet with sufficient personnel to staff the station at least between  
2 the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. each day.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Mr. Richard Hallgren,  
4 Director of the National Weather Service; Mr. Stewart Bigler, Regional  
5 Director of the National Weather Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
6 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don  
7 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.  
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