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Introduced: 2/26/81
Referred: State Affairs

to FAS
BY HOHMA BY REQUEST

IN THE SENATE

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

Requesting the President to direct
the creation of a utility corridor
for the extension of the Alaska
Railroad to the Canadian border.

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

WHEREAS it is essential that transportation links be developed if
Alaska, and especially interior Alaska, is ever to attain its full potential;
and

WHEREAS, traditionally, railroad systems have been in the forefront of
the development of new territories, no matter where they have existed in the
world; and

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WHEREAS the Yukon Territory and British Columbia are in the same
position as Alaska in that transportation systems are needed to aid further
development; and

WHEREAS it would seem logical and proper that the Alaska Railroad
should connect with the Canadian railway system at some strategically
located point; and

WHEREAS such a transportation linkup would be of vast benefit to
Alaska, the United States, and Canada; and

WHEREAS members of Canadian governments have expressed a keen desire
for serious talks concerning an international rail connection; and

WHEREAS President Reagan spoke many times during his campaign of using
the vast storehouse of vital energy resources in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Railroad has in its enabling Act, The Alaska Rail-
road Act (43 U.S.C. 975 - 975(g)) authority to extend its track up to 1,000

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miles in length; and

WHEREAS sec. 501(a) of P.L. 94 - 579 of October 21, 1976, authorizes the establishment of rights-of-way by the Secretary of the Interior over public domain land; and

WHEREAS the President, under authority granted to him by the Alaska Railroad Act of 1914, could, by a mere stroke of his pen, eliminate a vast amount of red tape, delay, and excessive cost to government;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the President of the United States to direct the Secretary of the Interior to declare the route described in Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Project X20089 from Eielson Air Force Base to the Canadian border a railroad utility corridor.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable James G. Watts, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Drew Lewis, Secretary of Transportation; the Honorable Robert Burford, Director-Designate of the Bureau of Land Management; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

called (George) Elsa 3/6/81

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19 the Alaska delegation in Congress.
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April 13. —

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