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February 4, 1982

Senator Bill Ray
Chairman
Senate Transportation Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

SUBJECT: Response to the request
of the Chairman of the
Senate Transportation
Committee

Dear Senator Ray:

Request the Federal Government (Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Management and Budget) to exempt the Alaska Railroad from employment ceilings and reductions in force. These would adversely effect the Alaska Railroad's financial ability to maximize their gross revenue and profit base during this transition period of ownership from the U.S. Federal Government to the State of Alaska.

The Alaska Railroad has proven their ability to generate a profit and in as much as they will no longer receive congressional appropriations for major maintenance and capital improvements, the profit earned in FY '82 will be required for FY '83 major maintenance and capital improvements. To restrict employment of the ARR would be counter-productive.

Sincerely,



F. H. Jones
General Manager
Alaska Railroad