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457

MAY 4, 1984

TO: JOHN

FROM: KEN

RE: HB 457 " MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE IDITAROD
TRAIL COMMITTEE.

HB 457 WAS FIRST INTRODUCED AS AN APPROPRIATION TO THE
IDITAROD TRAIL COMMITTEE AS A GRANT FOR THE 1984 RACE. BY
REQUEST OF THE SPONSORS, THE AMOUNT OF THE GRANT HAS
BEEN INCREASED FROM 65 THOUSAND TO 72 THOUSAND AND THE
DIRECTED TOWARD NEXT YEARS IDITAROD. THE TRAIL
COMMITTEE HAS SUPPLIED A BRIEFING PAPER EXPLAINING HOW THE
MONEY WOULD BE USED.



IDITAROD TRAIL COMMITTEE, INC.

May 1, 1984

Mr. Kan Johnson
Administrative Assistant, Rep. John Cowdery
House Labor & Commerce Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Mr. Johnson,

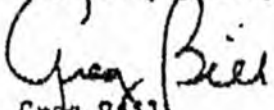
Enclosed is a complete breakdown of our request for funding for the 1985 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, classified under HB 457.

We appreciate the State's assistance in the past, as without it I don't believe Iditarod could have grown to be the international spectacle it has become.

A fact that should interest you is that data was gathered during this year's Race for a professional research firm which has volunteered its services to prepare an economic impact study for us. Rough estimates indicate that we generate around \$3,000,000 in additional revenue for the State, a lot of that benefitting the communities we pass through. A final accurate report should be completed by early next year.

Your assistance in the passage of HB 457 is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


Greg Bill
Executive Director

GB/jp
Enclosure

1985 Iditarod Sled Dog Race Request

1. Trail

Each year ITC breaks and marks the Iditarod Trail from Settler's Bay to Shageluk or Ruby. We must find volunteers to complete, at cost, this project. Many different groups use the trail when it is opened. We need monies for machine rentals, expenses, gas, food, labor, and markings.

\$14,000

2. Dog Care and Treatment

Last year over one thousand (1000) dogs left Fourth Avenue in Anchorage. About 700 arrived in Nome. All up the trail we have Veterinarians stationed to care for the dogs. Each Veterinarian has medication and equipment to treat emergencies and to perform autopsies if necessary. They also help the mushers keep their teams in top health. Veterinarians also check for illegal drugs, sending the samples to Cornell University for analysis. For Veterinarian expenses (food, lodging, transportation), medical supplies, autopsies, and sample analysis.

\$13,000

3. Iditarod Air Force

Each year Aviation Insurance cost raises. The Iditarod Trail Committee must be protected, so we take out this Insurance for a month and a half. We purchase gas and oil for our planes up the trail. This does not money in the local economy. We request funding for pilot expenses (food, lodging) gas, oil, and Aviation Insurance.

\$20,000

4. Liability Insurance

We must have protection for spectators, municipalities, Bureau of Land Management, our volunteers, and Iditarod Trail Committee. Our dog truck is also insured.

\$ 8,000

5. Brochures and Press Packets

Because of increasing race exposure, we are getting more requests, year round, for information on Iditarod. We would like to put together an "Amateur's Guide to Iditarod". This would include the whus, whens, and how comes of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. For the press packets we try to provide them with interesting information and facts about the race. We also inform the uninformed the trials and tribulations of traveling up the trail.

\$ 5,000

6. Race Personnel Identification

With all the spectators and press following the race, it is hard to identify our race personnel. Not only is it confusing for misiners, but many times we end up with unauthorizd charges on our accounts.

\$ 2,000

7. Office Equipment and Expenses

The cost of operating our office year round is expensive. We would like to include general office supplies in this request.

Also included is one (1) word processor and one (1) electric typewriter.

\$10,000

TOTAL REQUEST

\$72,000