

HB

601

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Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Bette Cato, Chair
House Transportation Committee

FROM: Representative Jim Duncan

DATE: February 23, 1984

RE: Ridesharing Program

I am writing this memo to urge you to schedule House Bill 601 for a hearing in your committee as soon as possible.

House Bill 601 represents the enabling legislation to allow Juneau to embark on a model ridesharing program, which, if successful, could be emulated in other Alaskan communities.

Informal ridesharing is currently occurring in Juneau to some extent; however for the impact to be seen in parking availability, much more needs to be done.

House Bill 601 is the first step in that direction. It would allow the State to purchase vans for van-pooling use. Van-pooling is a federally recognized program eligible for 100% federal funding if properly implemented. It would also allow ridesharing in state owned sedans.

Jeanne Erskine, a local ridesharing consultant has submitted a study which proposes purchase of several vans, enlisting and retaining reliable driver-coordinators and levying of user fees (ranging from \$33 to \$48 per month) appropriate to the actual cost incurred for each van pool. Each van would carry 9-11 passengers and be provided a reserved parking space in the State parking garage.

Experience has shown that in order to obtain maximum participation there must be a strong commitment by management to the program.

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Representative Mike Miller has requested that DOT/PF perform a cost/benefit analysis to determine feasibility of the program.

I have asked Representative Bob Bettisworth to consider inserting \$25,000 in DOA's budget to plan and implement the program.

This program has the potential for great success at small cost to the State. I would appreciate your personal attention to this matter.