

SCR

19

Alaska State Legislature

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Senate Committee on Resources

April 28, 1983

Memo

To: Senate Resources Committee Members
From: Senate Resources Committee Staff
Subject: SCR 19, State Trails System

Following the hearing last month on SB 9 which would have established a state trails system, staff was asked to work with the Division of Parks and the bill's sponsor to develop a possible committee substitute to clarify the objectives of the legislation and resolve problems raised by the bill.

At a meeting with Parks and Senator Fischer's staff it was concluded that many of the objectives of the legislation were better met through administrative actions and increased funding rather than specific statutory changes. Thus, it was agreed that a resolution to the Governor recommending certain administrative actions was a more appropriate course at this time.

Attached is a sponsor substitute for SCR 19 which asks the Governor to develop a plan for a trails system that would outline various management and development needs and to report back to the Legislature with a progress report and any recommendations for legislation. Senator Fischer has withdrawn SB 9. The sponsor substitute makes only clarifying changes in the original resolution introduced by Senator Fischer.

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Senate

Committee on Resources

MINUTES

April 29, 1983
3:12 p.m.

Beltz Room
Room 211, Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Fahrenkamp, Chair
Senator Ziegler, Vice Chair
Senator P. Fischer

Senator V. Fischer
Senator Mulcahy
Senator Sturgulewski

CALENDAR

- HB 284 An Act designating the bowhead whale as the state marine mammal.
- SCR 19 Relating to a statewide system of trails.
- HB 258 An Act establishing a special investment tax credit; and providing for an effective date.

HB 284

Representative Fuller urged that the Committee support the bill. He stated that the bowhead whale represents Alaska's history, culture and spirit.

Senator Mulcahy moved the bill be reported out with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

SCR 19

Senator V. Fischer said that the State has the authority to coordinate a statewide trails system, but has established no policy. The resolution asks the Governor to develop a plan for a trails system. There would be no fiscal impact, because most agencies involved are already working on various aspects of the system; it would be a matter of coordinating efforts. Fischer

moved that CS SCR 19 be reported out of committee with individual recommendations. The motion passed without objection.

CSHB 258

Deborah Vogt, Assistant Attorney General, said the bill is constitutionally unclear, and explained this point of view.

Joe Donohue, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Revenue, explained language suggested for a committee substitute. He explained how the tax credit might work, and compared it to the federal investment tax credit.

Rov Huhndorf, President, Cook Inlet Region, Inc., explained the bill's potential to stimulate and broaden the Alaskan economy, and urged adoption of the bill.

Dave Heatwole, Alaska Miners Association, said the Association had passed a resolution endorsing the bill, and explained how it would benefit the mining industry. He opposed exempting sand and gravel, and noted that the mining license tax would still generate revenue to the State.

Wayne Allred, Northwest Alaskan Pipeline Company, provided written testimony. He supported the tax credit without limitation of the location of facilities. He felt the bill, as written, is discriminatory and unconstitutional, and requested all geographical references be removed from the bill.

Jeff Day, assistant to Rep. Joe Hayes, agreed to relay questions and concerns to Rep. Hayes.

The Committee adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Introduced: 4/19/83
Referred: Transportation
and Resources

1 IN THE SENATE SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE BY V.FISCHER
2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to a statewide system of
6 trails.

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

8 WHEREAS Alaska has many historical, recreational, and wilderness
9 trails, waterways, and campsites; and

10 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to develop a statewide
11 trails system to increase recreational opportunities for residents and
12 visitors alike; and

13 WHEREAS it is necessary that the state develop a method of protecting
14 known trails from loss from public ownership; and

15 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to protect, provide
16 for, and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned land and resources
17 by the public; and

18 WHEREAS a statewide trails system would provide access to areas of
19 historical, natural, or recreational interest; and

20 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to provide a method
21 for the connection of state trails with other existing or potential units
22 of a statewide system of trails, including trails located on federal or
23 municipal land; and

24 WHEREAS there is currently no comprehensive statewide plan for devel-
25 oping a trails system or including trails nominated by local governments
26 for inclusion in the state system; and

27 WHEREAS tourism constitutes ^{a major} ~~the third largest~~ industry in the state
28 and the development of recreational opportunities through a statewide
29 system of trails is in the public interest; and

1 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to encourage state
2 agencies to work cooperatively to reserve and develop trail heads to serve
3 a statewide system of trails; and

4 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to design, designate
5 and develop trails, trailheads, and public access areas in conjunction with
6 the construction of transportation and other public works projects; and

7 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to develop standards
8 and guidelines for inclusion of trails into a statewide system of trails;
9 and

10 WHEREAS information to members of the public about the use and loca-
11 tion of state trails is necessary to ensure safe and maximum public enjoy-
12 ment of publicly owned land and resources;

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the governor is
14 respectfully requested to direct appropriate state agencies to develop a
15 plan for a comprehensive statewide system of trails that will

16 (1) provide for standards, procedures, and management guidelines
17 for designating trails within a statewide trails system;

18 (2) provide access to areas of historical, natural, or recrea-
19 tional interests;

20 (3) protect and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned
21 land and resources by the public;

22 (4) protect existing trails now in public ownership and access
23 from loss to the public;

24 (5) propose a state and local government capital improvement
25 plan which includes inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the
26 design, development and management of a statewide system of trails; and be
27 it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to prepare
a report to the Second Session of the Thirteenth Legislature of progress in
developing and implementing a statewide trails system plan, including recommendations
to the Legislature for future action or statutory changes.