

SCR

4

Offered: 5/3/83
Referred: Rules

5-4-83 / 19-0 LG

Original sponsor: V. Fischer

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2 CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19 (Resources)
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 industry in the state and the
28 development of recreational opportunities through a statewide system of
29 trails is in the public interest; and

- 1 development and implementation of a statewide trails system plan, including
- 2 recommendations to the legislature for statutory changes.

TRAILS LEGISLATION, SB-9

The major questions and problems raised by Senator Fahrenkamp and Committee staff center around what we are trying to accomplish with this legislation which we can't achieve under existing law or existing DNR authorities. Major goals which might require much different approaches include:

- funding for a trails coordinator in Parks —
- acquisition of needed trail rights-of-way or physical trail developments for recreational uses (or other uses?)
- Commemorative designation of the Iditarod Trail as state trail to better coordinate management with Federal historical trail management.
- Designation of Iditarod State Trail to provide actual on-the-ground state management and construction or historic preservation.
- Creation of a state scenic rivers or waterway system.
- Designation of many different trails for general recreation or tourist-based publicity or information purposes.
- Force coordination/cooperation between various state agencies, between the state and municipalities or between the state and federal agencies.

Relative to the above, things of particular concern include:

- no specific lateral or length boundaries of trails, waterways
- no specific management prescriptions or allowed or permitted uses.
- administrative ability to designate trails, waterways.
- Inclusion of "waterways" (backdoor scenic river system?)
- Why new undefined categories in trails system?
- Why mandated Div. of Tourism information brochures. \$\$\$?
- Lack of specific trails designated in bill.
- Plan for overall system, trails generally, or specific trails?

Introduced: 1/18/83
Referred: Resources and
and Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY V.FISCHER AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE BILL NO. 9

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to outdoor recreational facilities;
7 providing for a state historical, recreational, and
8 wilderness trails, waterways, and campsite system;
9 and providing for an effective date."

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

11 * Section 1. AS 41.20.070 is amended to read:

12 Sec. 41.20.070. ESTABLISHMENT. There is established in the
13 state a system of historical, recreational, and wilderness trails,
14 waterways, and campsites. The system includes all state trails,
15 waterways, and campsites designated under AS 41.20.080 and those local
16 trails, waterways, and campsites nominated by local governments for
17 inclusion in the state system and approved by the commissioner of
18 natural resources. The system shall be administered by the Department
19 of Natural Resources, division of parks.

*Multiple
Jurisdiction*

*Local
Consider
Reservation*

20 * Sec. 2. AS 41.20.080 is repealed and reenacted to read:

21 Sec. 41.20.080. SELECTION. (a) The Department of Natural Re-
22 sources, in consultation with the Departments of Fish and Game and
23 Transportation and Public Facilities, shall designate a system of
24 historical, recreational, and wilderness trails, waterways, and camp-
25 sites throughout the state. Significant in the selection shall be the
26 scenic, recreational, historic, natural, or cultural qualities of the
27 areas through which the trails and waterways pass.

28 (b) Trails, waterways, and campsites designated under this
29 section shall

1 Sec. 41.20.105. TRAILS WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY. The Department of
2 Natural Resources may enter into a cooperative agreement with a muni-
3 cipality of the state for the acquisition, development, and marking of
4 trails within the municipality.

5 * Sec. 6. AS 41.20.110 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (c) In accordance with plans developed jointly with the division
7 of parks, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities shall
8 develop and construct trail heads to serve the trail system, and shall
9 develop and provide for safe and adequate public access to waterways
10 in the system. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
11 shall incorporate these trail heads and access to waterways in the
12 design and development of all state highway projects that affect the
13 system. As used in this subsection, a "trail head" is an area provid-
14 ing parking for the public and marking the existence of a trail.

15 * Sec. 7. AS 41.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

16 Sec. 41.20.115. INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL. The division of tourism
17 in the Department of Commerce and Economic Development shall prepare
18 informational material for state and national distribution promoting
19 the use of state historical, recreational, and wilderness trails,
20 waterways, and campsites and shall coordinate this informational
21 material with information and advertising promoting tourism to state
22 parks and historical sites.

23 Sec. 41.20.125. REPORT AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN. (a) By the first
24 Monday in January of each year the division of parks, Department of
25 Natural Resources, shall file with the governor and the legislature a
26 report showing trails, waterways, and campsites included in the
27 system, arrangements made or entered into for use, development, main-
28 tenance, or marking of units within the system, and money expended or
29 committed for these purposes.

1 (b) The division of parks, Department of Natural Resources,
2 shall prepare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system
3 and shall include the plan in the annual report required by (a) of
4 this section.

5 * Sec. 8. This Act takes effect July 1, 1983.



Alaska State Legislature

Senate

Official Business

Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp
Chairman

Pouch V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

March 23, 1983
3:10 p.m.

211 Beltz Room

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Fahrenkamp
Senator Ziegler
Senator Eliason

Senator Vic Fischer ✓
Senator Mulcahy
Senator Sturgulewski

-
- SB 9 - An Act relating to outdoor recreational facilities; providing for a state historical, recreational, and wilderness trails, waterways and campsite system.
- SB 128 - An Act establishing certain areas as marine park units of the Alaska state park system.
- CSHB 151 - An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks, for acquisition and development of the House of Wickersham in Juneau.

SB 9 - Neil Johannsen, Director, State Division of Parks testified that the administration supports SB 9. He would recommend that the fiscal note be stricken to zero. Discussion followed as to implementation of the bill if it was not funded. Regarding the Iditarod Trail, he stated that BLM will not act on the trail management plan until a joint understanding by the State of Alaska and the Department of Interior has been reached on management strategies. At that time a plan will be submitted to the Alaskan delegation in Washington, D. C. and funds requested.

Senator Vic Fischer listed amendments he wished to see included in SB 9. Senator Fahrenkamp suggested that Sen. Fischer work closely with Citizen's Advisory Commission which has worked on the Iditarod plan.

Senator Fischer moved a zero fiscal note on SB 9. There were no objections.

Jim Wilson representing himself expressed concern over the lack of safeguards in the bill permitting continued historic use of trails for mining, etc.

Mary Lou King representing herself supports SB 9.

SB 128 - Neil Johannsen, Director of Alaska State Parks, gave background information and the history of the acquisition of land for marine parks. Discussion followed regarding amount of state land selected from national forests allocated to prime recreation use, similar projects in other areas, the law suit over land selections with the Forest Service, the support of various groups including Alaska Visitor's Association and communities in the Prince William Sound area. He suggested various amendments to improve upon the bill: i.e. special purpose sites, the inclusion of Board of Game,

Page 2 - March 28, 1965
permission to construct aquaculture facilities, cooperative agreements with other owners in management and access across marine sites. He recommended a zero fiscal note.

Senator Fischer moved the committee fiscal note. There were no objections.

Jay Nelson, Representative of Alaska Environmental Lobby, testified that SB 128 would assure good conservation of land and supports the bill. He supports zero fiscal note on SB 128. He also supports CSHB 151 and SB 9.

Carl Yanagawa, Department of Fish and Game testified that his department supports SB 128.

Senator Vic Fischer moved that a committee substitute be prepared to incorporate proposed changes. There were no objections.

Senator Fahrenkamp stated that the Committee would consider SB 128 on Monday, March 28.

CSHB 151 - Ned Farquhar, Special Assistant to DNR Commissioner Wunnicke requested permission to delay the Administration's comments on CSHB 151 one week.

Senator Fahrenkamp concurred in the request.

Kitty Gaer, a private citizen testified in support of CSHB 151.

Perry Lovett, Mayor of Cordova and a member of Alaska Parks and Recreation testified in support of SB 9 and SB 128. He also supports amendments offered by State Division of Parks. However, he expressed concern regarding a zero fiscal note.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Sitka State Parks Citizen's Advisory Board
Resolution No. 6

A resolution urging the the passage of Senate Resolution No. 4 relating to a statewide system of trails.

WHEREAS water, land and snow based trails are an important recreation facility for both Alaska residents and visitors; and
WHEREAS trails provide access to public lands and resources; and
WHEREAS The State of Alaska has selected Federal lands which contain all or segments of existing trails; and
WHEREAS trail rights-of-way have been reserved across native selected lands at the request of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game; and
WHEREAS some of the existing trails were maintained by volunteer groups;and
WHEREAS the State of Alaska has not designated agencies to assume responsibility for existing trails and trail right's-of-way on State lands; and
WHEREAS municipalities, Federal agencies and volunteer groups have no State agency they can work with in maintaining trails; and
WHEREAS right's-of-way reserved to provide public access to public resources across private lands are being lost due to neglect;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Sitka State Parks Citizen's Advisory Board that the following actions be initiated:

1. That the State Legislature pass Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 relating to a statewide system of trails.
2. That the Governor designate an appropriate agency to assume responsibility for existing trails and trail rights-of-way on State lands.

Passed and approved this 16th day of April, 1985.

for Craig V. Courtright
Dick Wilson, Chairman

6

LYNN CANAL CONSERVATION, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 521
HAINES, ALASKA 99827

March 20, 1983

Senator Vic Fischer
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

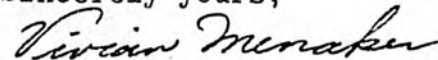
Re: Senate Bill No. 9 (Alaska State Trails System)

Dear Senator Fischer:

We support creation of the Alaska State Trails System (SB 9). It is an attempt to create a systematic approach to state-wide trail designation, development and maintenance. An integrated system of trails provides a framework for recreational opportunities which have in the past been scattered and piecemeal at best. State visitors and residents would both benefit from a coordinated selection of trail locations and design. The State Trails System would also allow for a more efficient means of management with planning, construction and maintenance responsibilities designated.

Tourism increasingly contributes to our state's economy. This system will provide another dimension to encourage tourism.

Sincerely yours,



Vivian Menaker, President

CC: Senator Betoye Fahrenkamp, Chairman
Senator Don Bennett, Finance Committee Chairman
Senator Jalmar Kerttula, President
Senator Richard Eliason, Resources Committee
Representative Peter Goll, Resources Committee

SCR 19 - RELATING TO A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF TRAILS

(Senate Resources Committee - Friday, April 29, 1983 - Senator Vic Fischer)

1. for two years you've had a bill pending establishing a statewide trails system.
2. recent hearings on the bill and meetings with various agencies within DNR and DOTPF have illustrated some major problems:
 - A. The state (Governor) has no state policy towards trails - in fact, no one is charged with nor responsible for planning, and developing a policy.
 - B. If trails are administered through the Division of Parks they are parks, with all the perhaps unwanted and unnecessary restrictions associated with parks that may not be applicable to trails
 - C. Who is the most appropriate agency to administer and plan for trails? How can we assure coordination between agencies in developing and preserving trails.
 - D. Many of Alaska's trails are used primarily for transportation with recreation use second. Particularly historical trails may be the only access to mining claims and homesteads.
3. It became apparent that:
 - A. Alaska should develop a statewide trails system.
 - B. That system should be planned, should provide for nominations into the system, should assure interagency coordination, should provide for the state to help local government units manage their trail system.
 - C. The Resources Committee (Bettye) felt a resolution would be a more appropriate vehicle - and that the policy decisions should be made administratively (or, at least, that we should give them (the Gov) a chance before we did it by legislation.
4. SCR 19 is modeled after the trails bill. It' whereas' list all the things that need addressed and why in planning for a statewide trails system and it's therefore's ask the Governor to direct appropriate agencies to develop a plan that accommodates all the needs and issues identified in the whereas'.
5. SCR 19 requests a report be given to next year's legislature outlining progress in implementing and developing a trails plan, including recommendations for statutory change or other legislative measures.

/gb
4/29



Senator Vic Fischer

Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V • Juneau, Alaska 99811 • (907) 465-4954

February 26, 1985

To: Senator Sturgulewski, Chair
Senate Resources Committee

From: Senator Vic Fischer

Re: SCR 4 - statewide trails system

Attached are copies of SCR 4, my statement of February 8, and Esther Wunnicke's letter of February 22.

I would very much like to have us move on SCR 4. As indicated in my memo, the same resolution passed the Senate unanimously in 1983 and was unanimously ok'd by the House Resources and Finance committees. Only my friend Ramona's intransigence kept it from being enacted last year.

Esther's letter indicates that DNR might provide a "0" fiscal note, though they'd prefer to go ahead with \$131,000 per year. From a practical standpoint, I would rather go with a zero fiscal note, as I'm sure DNR, with DOTPF and local government assistance, could make significant progress toward trail system planning, and designation.

cc: Senator Coghil

*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM *
* *
* ORIGINAL *
* SENT: 02/21/85 TIME: 10:12 *
* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO *
* SUBJECT: FOM *
* PRINT DATE: 02/21/85 TIME: 10:13 *
*

TO: SEN. COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, FAIKS, FERGUSON, F
FISCHER, VIC FISCHER, HALFORD, JOSEPHSON, KERTTULA, SACKETT,
STURGULEWSKI AND ZHAROFF

REP. ADAMS, BINKLEY, CATO, COTTEN, DUNCAN, FRANK, HERRMANN,
JENKINS, LARSON, MW MILLER, PEARCE, POURCHOT, RIEGER, RINGSTAD,
SHULTZ, SUND, SZYMANSKI, THOMPSON, UEHLING AND WALLIS

FROM: SHERWIN START, 320 MCCARREY, ANCHORAGE, 99504, 337-8988(HM)

RE: SCR 4

THIS BILL WILL GO A LONG WAYS TOWARDS PROVIDING FUTURE
RECREATIONAL ACCESS AND THEREFORE PROVIDE FOR A MUCH NEEDED
DIVERSIFICATION OF THE STATES REVENUE BASE.

*****MATR-0036*****FEB. 15*****MARTIE/MATSU*****

TO: SENATORS DEVIRES, V. FISCHER, JOSEPHSON, AND KERTTULA

FROM: JOE ORTNER
PO BOX 1178
PALMER 99645
745-2442

RE: SCR 4, STATEWIDE SYSTEM IF TRAILS

PLOW AHEAD FULL SPEED ON THIS. A SYSTEM OF TRAILS STATEWIDE
WOULD BE A REAL BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA AND TO TOURISM.



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chairman • 1024 W. 6th Ave., Suite 204 C,
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 278-3654

Official Business

November 15, 1983

Honorable William Sheffield
Governor, State of Alaska
Pouch A
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Bill:

I am writing to urge your help in initiating efforts to establish a state-wide system of trails, trail-heads, and waterways.

Alaska's vast statewide system of historical and recreational trails has been largely ignored by past administrations. In spite of this, the demand for trail oriented recreation experiences in Alaska has grown phenomenally. With tourism rapidly becoming Alaska's most vital industry short of oil development, it's unlikely this pressure will diminish.

Although the benefits of establishing a comprehensive trails system are obvious and compelling - tourism development, increased recreation opportunities, national and historical interest, expanding state transportation links, connecting existing parks and tourist facilities with local government recreation areas - the potential has never been realized. Alaska will need your direct help and intervention to assure that this resource lives up to it's full promise.

Currently Alaska has no policy or program to identify and catalog known trails, to coordinate efforts in managing and preserving them or, indeed, any overall strategy that recognizes the economic, historic, and recreation potential of trails or encourages their development.

Instead, the state has exacerbated the problem considerably in the last few years by inadvertently including trails in land disposals, failing to acquire rights-of-way, and developing settlements and transportation corridors in conflict with existing historical trails.

While the benefits are clear, we should also weigh the costs of doing nothing. The list of known state trails reads like the pages of Alaska's history book: Iditarod, Chilkoot, Resurrection Pass, Eagle Summit. Many of these will quickly become history lost without your intervention.

I have enclosed a copy of SCR19 - a resolution basically urging the same action I'm urging through this letter. SCR 19 passed the Senate unanimously last year and is currently in the House Resources Committee. While I anticipate no problems with it's final passage, I'd rather not pursue a legislative solution for what may require simple executive action.

Since first introducing legislation in 1981 to establish a trails system, I've had the opportunity to attend several public hearings/teleconferences where overwhelming support was voiced from constituents, recreation enthusiasts, Alaska's historical community, tourists, and citizens generally interested in parks and recreation issues.

While that statewide support and enthusiasm has not diminished, when it came to the "nuts and bolts" of drafting the bill, serious policy considerations and problems became apparent. These problems should be thoroughly considered by the Governor and pertinent state agencies in order to decide what subsequent action, if any, should be pursued. Among the issues that concern me are:

- The state has no policy towards trails and no state agency is responsible for planning and developing a policy. In this case, the buck hasn't stopped anywhere - it never got started in the first place.
- In the absence of a state policy, plan, or system for surveying, identifying and designating trails, we are continuously and forever losing patents, rights-of-ways and ownership/management authority of state owned trails.
- Which is the most appropriate agency to administer and plan for trails? How can we assure coordination between agencies in identifying, cataloging, developing and preserving trails, trail heads and associated waterways? Can we have joint management or at least a coordinated agreement between state agencies dealing with trails that could include joint management agreements with local governments?
- Many of Alaska's trails, particularly historical ones, were created and used primarily for transportation, specifically mining operations, with recreation as a "second" use. How can we administer trails as "parks" and still allow adequate access and use as transportation corridors?
- If trails are administered through the Division of Parks they are parks, with all the perhaps unwanted or inappropriate restrictions associated with parks that may not be applicable to trails. If trails are to be administered as "long, skinny parks," how can we dilute park restrictions without also diluting the Division's authority to protect established units?
- Finally, can an "in-house" coordinated effort adequately establish and preserve a comprehensive statewide trails system without creating a new agency or authority, reams of regulations and red tape, and subsequent increased budget demands? Can the administration at least assure that the most immediate and pressing problems - acquiring rights-of-way that are about to be lost and not disposing of or endangering existing state owned trails - are taken care of while it plans for longer term considerations?

Senator Vic Fischer

(907) 465-4954

Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V • Juneau, Alaska 99811 • (907) 465-4954



MEMORANDUM

TO: Reps. John Ringstad and Richard Shultz
Co-Chairs, House Resources Committee

FROM: Senator Vic Fischer

DATE: April 23, 1984

RE: SCR 19

SCR 19, a resolution urging the Governor to establish a statewide trails system, is currently before the House Resources Committee.

SCR 19 passed the Senate unanimously during the last week of the 1983 session. It makes clear the wishes of the legislature that Alaska's statewide trail system be preserved and maintained for use by all Alaskans.

Without its passage, we are likely to continue to see our trail system whittled at by loss of rights-of-way, inability to develop cooperative management with private, state, federal and other landowners, and restriction of public use by inappropriate designations.

I'd greatly appreciate it, therefore, if you would schedule this resolution for hearing at your earliest convenience. Please let me know if any additional background information is needed.

Thanks.

Bill, I have faith that the new energy and direction of your administration can be applied here. You have the people, the brains, and the commitment to see that Alaska's history, along with our growing recreation and tourism industry, is enhanced and encouraged by a nationally recognized trails system stretching from Ketchikan to Barrow.

What we need here is a fresh look, a businessman's perspective, and a decision to do what to be needs done. I'll help in any way I can.

Best regards,

Senator Vic Fischer

cc: Dan Casey, Commissioner of DOTPF
Esther Wunnike, Commissioner DNR
Tom Hawkins, Division of Lands
Neil Johannsen, Division of Parks

/gb



Official Business


Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chair • Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4954

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rep. John Ringstad and Richard Shultz
Co-Chairs, House Resources Committee

FROM: Senator Vic Fischer 

DATE: February 28, 1984

RE: SCR 19

SCR 19, a resolution urging the Governor to establish a statewide trails system, is currently before the House Resources Committee.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could schedule the bill for hearing before the committee at your convenience.

Attached is back-up material for committee members. Please let me know if additional material is required.

Thanks.

/gb



McKai:

here is a complete "package" on SCR 4, the statewide trails resolution.

In 1981 Victor introduced Sb 189, creating a statewide trails system. The bill didn't get past the Senate Finance Committee.

In 1982 Vic re-introduced the same bill. (By the way, in 1981 we had overwhelming support from local communities for the trail system with a letter of endorsement from over 35 towns and villages)

The 1982 bill was SB 9 (copy enclosed). When SB 9 got to Fahrenkamp's committee, Bettye had some problems with it. These problems are outlined somewhat in the attached memo's.

the upshot was that (as explained in the letter to the Governor) that too many basic policy issues had to be decided before we proceed with a bill so a Resolution seemed in order. Hence SCR 19 which passed the Senate unanimously and the House committees unanimously only to die in House Rules because that's the political breaks (VF had already had six bills pass into law that session, enough was enough).

The rest, as they say, is history (in the form of SCR 4). We still have no comprehensive approach to trail planning, Parks still doesn't know what Div. of Land & Water is doing and noone is talking to DOTPF, let alone the Div. of Tourism or DEC or a host of other state/local/federal agencies having some jurisdiction over trails.

Something needs done, someone needs to be in charge of at least inventoring what trails we have and making a list of agencies involved with their management. Seems simple enough.

Another note: research a

/g.Baim
3/18/85

Introduced: 2/11/85
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY V.FISCHER AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to ~~a~~ statewide ~~system of~~

6

trails. *systems*

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 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

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to pre-
29 pare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system and shall

inc. Trail. uses

- 1st 15th.
- 1 include the plan in annual reports to the ~~Second~~ Session of the ~~Fourteenth~~
 - 2 Legislature and to subsequent legislatures.

~~It further resolved that -~~

and, ^{immediately} concentrate ~~on~~ initial efforts on providing input to appropriate federal agencies acting on Federal Management plans to assure adequate protection of current and future access for recreational and other ^{purposes} opportunities.

Introduced: 2/11/85
Referred: Resources and
Finance

*applies to or includes
RS 2477.5*

1 IN THE SENATE

BY V. FISCHER AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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13 ~~WHEREAS~~ 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

*all fed
agencies as
directed in
ANILCA*

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;

would include RS 2477's

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

(6) [give special consideration to and their management in the RW of fed] trails when reviewing all fed management plans for federal conservation units

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to pre-
29 pare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system and shall

- 1 include the plan in annual reports to the Second Session of the Fourteenth
- 2 Legislature and to subsequent legislatures.

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____

REQUEST

Bill/Resolution No.: SCR 4
 Title: Statewide trails

FISCAL DETAIL

Agency Affected: Natural Resources
 Program Category Affected: NRMEC

Sponsor: v. Fischer
 Requestor: _____
 Date of Request: _____

BRU, Program or Subprogram(s) Affected:
Land and Water, Parks and Outdoor Recreation

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 85	FY 86	FY 87	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90
OPERATING						
100 PERSONAL SERVICES						
200 TRAVEL						
300 CONTRACTUAL						
400 SUPPLIES						
500 EQUIPMENT						
600 LAND & STRUCTURES						
700 GRANTS, CLAIMS						
800 MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL		-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: Attach a separate page if necessary

No fiscal impact. The department will continue to conduct trails planning within area plans, in cooperation with local and federal agencies and the local public. Because the resolution carries no deadline for the completion of statewide trails plans and policies, the department will attempt to develop these in the course of its activities without additional cost or staff.

Prepared By: Ned Farquhar Phone: 465-2400
 Division: Commissioner's Office Date: March 22, 1985

Approved by Commissioner: Wm D Arns Deputy Date: March 22, 1985
 Agency: Natural Resources

Distribution (by Agency preparing fiscal nota):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

7/1/84

~~WHEREAS many federal plans are currently in preparation~~

WHEREAS the federal government is conducting management planning for conservation units that encompasses many important trails.

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 ~~WHEREAS~~ 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; including the traditional uses of the land

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 (6) Give special consideration to trails, ~~and~~ and their management in the review
of management plans for federal conservation units; and be it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to pre-
29 pare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system and shall

SCR 4 (FURTHER RESOLVED that efforts immediately concentrate on providing
input to appropriate agencies acting on Federal Management
plans to assure adequate protection of current and future
access for recreational and other purposes.)

Introduced: 2/11/85
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY V. FISCHER AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH 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 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~~, *including traditional use of the land*

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

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the ~~governor is respectfully requested to pre-~~
29 ~~pare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system and shall~~

whereas many federal lands

Resolved

- First* *Fifteenth*
- 1 ~~include the plan in annual reports~~ to the ~~Second~~ Session of the ~~Fourteenth~~
 - 2 Legislature and to subsequent legislatures.

FEB 21 1985

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*****
*
* DELIVER TO: JPOM
*
* ORIGINAL
* SENT: 02/21/85 TIME: 10:12
* FROM: LANA TRUJILLO
* SUBJECT: POM
* PRINT DATE: 02/21/85 TIME: 10:13
*
*****

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TO: SEN. COGHILL, ELIASON, FAHRENKAMP, FAIKS, FERGUSON, P. FISCHER, VIC FISCHER, HALFORD, JOSEPHSON, KERTTULA, SACKETT, STURGULEWSKI AND ZHAROFF

REP. ADAMS, BINKLEY, CATO, COTTEN, DUNCAN, FRANK, HERRMANN, JENKINS, LARSON, MW MILLER, PEARCE, POURCHOT, RIEGER, RINGSTAD, SHULTZ, SUND, SZYMANSKI, THOMPSON, UEHLING AND WALLIS

FROM: SHERWIN START, 320 MCCARREY, ANCHORAGE, 99504, 337-8988(HM)

RE: SCR 4

THIS BILL WILL GO A LONG WAYS TOWARDS PROVIDING FUTURE RECREATIONAL ACCESS AND THEREFORE PROVIDE FOR A MUCH NEEDED DIVERSIFICATION OF THE STATES REVENUE BASE.



**Fairbanks
North
Star
Borough**

Scrub
MAR 22 1985

Mayor: B.B. Allen

March 21, 1985

The Honorable Arliss Sturgulewski
Chairman, Senate Resources Committee
The State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Sturgulewski: *Arless*

The Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Commission has recommended to me that the Fairbanks North Star Borough support State Concurrent Resolution No. 4.

Within the Fairbanks North Star Borough, trail use has continually been identified as a top priority by residents. Our Commission feels a Statewide Trail System would benefit the State enormously and facilitate coordination between local trail planning efforts.

I concur with my Planning Commission's recommendations and recommend support of Concurrent Resolution No. 4.

Sincerely yours,

B. B. Allen
B. B. Allen
Mayor

BBA:jb

cc: Senator Vic Fischer
Senator Joe Josephson
Mr. Edwin (Rocky) Rhoades, Chairman,
Trails Advisory Commission

Introduced: 2/11/85
Referred: Resources and
Finance

1 IN THE SENATE

BY V. FISCHER AND JOSEPHSON

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH 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

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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

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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

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municipal land; and

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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 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

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8 and guidelines for inclusion of trails into a statewide system of trails;
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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

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17 for designating trails within a statewide trails system;

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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

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to pre-
29 pare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system and shall

- 1 include the plan in annual reports to the Second Session of the Fourteenth
- 2 Legislature and to subsequent legislatures.

Alaska State Legislature

ARLISS STURGULEWSKI, Chairman
BETTYE FAHRENKAMP, Vice Chairman
JACK COGHILL
DICK ELIASON
VIC FISCHER
RICK HALFORD
FRED ZHAROFF



POUCH V
JUNEAU, ALASKA. 99811
(907) 465-4907

Senate Committee on Resources

Senate Resources Committee Minutes

March 22, 1985
1:35 pm

Senate Resource Members Present

Senator Arliss Sturgulewski, Chairman
Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp, Vice Chair
Senator Dick Eliason
Senator Fred Zharoff

Senator Rick Halford
Senator Jack Coghill
Senator Vic Fischer

Calendar

SCR 4 Relating to a statewide system of trails.

SB 11 "An Act relating to the fisheries business tax."

Senator Sturgulewski

Called the meeting to order. She stated the committee had SCR 4 before them and opened the Public Hearing on SCR 4.

Senator Vic Fischer, prime sponsor of the resolution, stated the bill is to encourage state agencies to work cooperatively to reserve and develop statewide trail systems planning in Alaska.

Ned Farquhar, Special Assistant, DNR, stated support for SCR 4. Mr. Farquhar stated that it will assist in DNR's planning processes and the RS 2477 issue. He stated the department will handle the resolution within its planning process and therefore have submitted a zero fiscal note.

Linda Anderson, Fairbanks, testified in support of SCR 4.

Senator Sturgulewski closed the Public Hearing

Committee members discussed SCR 4 and noted the following concerns:

1. whether or not a report could be completed in time to submit to the Second Session of the Fourteenth Legislature as stated on page 3;
2. whether or not the resolution allowed for traditional uses of the land;

3. whether or not a further resolve clause should be added to directing DNR to concentrate initial input to agencies acting on Federal Management Plans

Senator Sturgulewski asked committee staff to work on SCR 4 to reflect committee member's concerns and stated she would bring it back at the end of the meeting.

Senator Sturgulewski stated that SB 11 was before the committee and that there were no members of the public on hand to testify on the bill.

Committee members discussed SB 11 and noted the following concerns:

1. should the state give a tax credit to some one who is delinquent on their taxes;
2. how can the state be sure that the tax credit money is going to upgrading the plants;
3. a person may be making a profit by receiving tax credits from the state and the federal governments.

Senator Halford moved the following amendment to SB 11: p. 1, l. 25: replace "related to a" with "for"; replace "facility" with "facilities improvement" and asked unanimous consent.

Senator Sturgulewski hearing no objection, so ordered. She asked that Senator Zharoff work with committee staff on SB 11 and then she would bring the bill back before the committee.

Senator Sturgulewski stated that SCR 4 was back before the committee.

Senator Vic Fischer moved that CS SCR 4 (Resources) be before the committee.

Senator Sturgulewski hearing no objection, so ordered.

Senator Vic Fischer moved CS SCR 4 (Resources) with individual recommendations and asked unanimous consent.

Senator Sturgulewski hearing no objection, so ordered.

Senator Sturgulewski adjourned the meeting at 2:45.

Senator Vic Fischer

Alaska State Legislature
Pouch V • Juneau, Alaska 99811 • (907) 465-4954



February 8, 1985

To: Interested Parties
From: Senator Vic Fischer
Re: SCR 4 - statewide trails system

SCR 4, introduced in the Senate today, calls on the Governor to coordinate the efforts of state agencies land management agencies to maintain, protect and enhance our statewide trail system.

Alaska's vast statewide system of historical and recreational trails has been largely ignored by past administrations. In spite of this, the demand for trail oriented recreation experiences in Alaska has grown phenomenally. With tourism rapidly becoming Alaska's most vital renewable industry, it's unlikely this pressure will diminish.

Currently, Alaska has no policy or program to identify and catalog known trails or to coordinate efforts in managing and preserving them. There is no overall strategy that recognizes the economic, historic, and recreation potential of trails or encourages their development.

Instead, the state has exacerbated the problem considerably in the last few years, often inadvertently. Thus some trails, including parts of the Iditerod Trail, have been included in proposed land disposals. Settlements and transportation corridors have been established in conflict with existing historical trails. Rights-of-way have not been reserved when the opportunity was available.

SCR 4 asks the Governor to pursue interagency coordination, with guidelines set by the legislature, to develop a comprehensive statewide system of trails that will:

- provide for standards, procedures, and management guidelines for designating trails within the system
- provide access to areas of historical, natural, or recreational interest
- protect and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned land and resources by the public
- protect existing trails now in public ownership and access from loss to the public

- propose a state and local government capital improvement plan that includes interagency coordination and cooperation in the design, development, and management of a statewide system of trails

Further, SCR 4 requests the Governor to make a report to the legislature on the development and implementation of a statewide trails system plan, including recommendations to the legislature for statutory changes.

SCR 4 is identical to SCR 19, that passed the Senate unanimously in 1983 and went on to pass, unanimously again, both the House Resources and House Finance Committee. It died in the House Rules Committee on adjournment.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

BILL SHEFFIELD, GOVERNOR

POUCH M
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: 907-465-2400

February 22, 1985

The Honorable Vic Fischer
Alaska State Senate
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Fischer:

You have asked for our position on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4, which relates to a statewide system of trails. We are very much in favor of the development of a comprehensive statewide plan for trails, for the purposes listed in the resolution, and believe that some trail planning can be accomplished as part of the current state planning program within the Department of Natural Resources.

Because of the decline in state revenues and the need for economy in all areas of government, however, we are unable to undertake the development of a truly comprehensive trail planning program at this time. A comprehensive trail planning program would include the following:

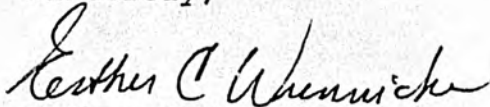
- Establishment of a statewide trail inventory coordinator, such as exists in many other states.
- Expanded identification of trails throughout the state through the statewide area planning process. ANCSA 17(b) type easement identification would be expanded to state, private and federal land throughout the state.
- Expanded review and preparation of cases to assert RS 2477 trails and right-of-ways in court.
- Assistance to the federal government in its task of reserving a network of trails on ANCSA lands (179(b)) through the development of regional atlases that show all trails in the state. If the public knows where trails and easements are, trespassing problems can be alleviated.

February 22, 1985

If the Legislature desires to have a comprehensive trail planning program completed more rapidly than our current or projected budgets allow, with the addition of approximately \$131,000 per year the actions described above could be taken. This level of funding would allow for two full-time employees to research and identify trails and coordinate and compile trail information. It would also allow for the publication of regional trail atlases.

Please let me know if I may provide additional information about our current or proposed trail planning projects.

Sincerely,



Esther C. Wunnicke
Commissioner

cc: Senator Joe Josephson
Tom Hawkins
Neil Johannsen



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Vic Fischer, Chair • Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-4954

February 28, 1984

TO: Members, House Resources Committee
FROM: Senator Vic Fischer *Vic Fischer*
Re: SCR 19 - establishing a statewide trails system

In 1981, I introduced SB 189, legislation that would have created a statewide system of recreational and scenic trails. I reintroduced basically the same bill in 1983 in the form of SB 9.

Before the Senate Resources committee hearing on SB 9, I met with personal from the Division of Parks, DOTPF, and Senator Fahrenkamps's staff. Those meetings illustrated some major problems with the bill including:

- the state has no comprehensive policy towards trails, in fact, no one is responsible for planning and developing such a policy
- if trails are administered through the Division of Parks they are parks, with all the restrictions associated with parks that may not be applicable to trails
- the Division of Land and Water Management has, in the past, inadvertently included the rights of way for historical, and recreational trails in land disposals. While they are getting much better, lack of adequate surveying and funding to identify and preserve rights-of-way remains a problem
- most of Alaska's major trails cross a mixture of public and private land. How can we preserve and maintain a statewide trail that crosses federal, state, municipal, borough, native, and other privately owned land as an integral unit?
- many of Alaska's trails are used primarily for transportation with recreation use second. Historical trails particularly may be the only access to mining claims and homesteads
- DOTPF is responsible for planning and construction involving transportation corridors. But what about trailheads, recreational trails, water crossings and campsites associated with transportation corridors and recreational trails?
- who, therefore, is the most appropriate agency to administer and plan for trails. How can we assure coordination between agencies in developing and preserving trails?

It became apparent to me that SB 9 may have been premature in that the Governor should have the opportunity first to provide for interagency coordination in planning and managing statewide trails before such management is "cast in concrete" through legislation.

SCR 19 is an attempt to allow the Governor the freedom to pursue interagency coordination with guidelines set by the legislature as to what we believe a statewide trails system should encompass.

SCR 19 is modeled after SB 9. It asks the Governor to direct appropriate state agencies to develop a plan for a comprehensive statewide system of trails that will

- provide for standards, procedures, and management guidelines for designating trails within the system

- provide access to areas of historical, natural, or recreational interest

- protect and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned land and resources by the public

- protect existing trails now in public ownership and access from loss to the public

- propose a state and local government capital improvement plan which includes inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the design, development and management of a statewide system of trails

Further, SCR 19 requests the Governor to make a report to the legislature on the development and implementation of a statewide trails system plan, including recommendations to the legislature for statutory changes.

This section of the resolution, page 2, lines 28 and 29, will have to be amended in the House as they call for the Governor to report to this session of the legislature. The section obviously reflects a bit of wishful thinking on my part, as I anticipated early passage of this resolution last year.

SCR 19 passed the Senate unanimously in the last weeks of the 1983 session. I hope it finds such favor in the House and I thank you for consideration of the resolution in committee.

/gb

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 20, 1983

VIC FISCHER INTRODUCES RESOLUTION
TO ESTABLISH STATEWIDE TRAIL SYSTEM

JUNEAU, AK. -- Anchorage Senator Vic Fischer today introduced a Senate Concurrent Resolution requesting Governor Bill Sheffield to develop a plan for a comprehensive statewide system of trails in the 49th state.

"In a state with all the scenic wonders that Alaska possesses it is appalling that we do not have a statewide trail system or plans for such a system," Fischer said today. "The trails would increase recreational opportunities for Alaskan residents as well as visitors."

Fischer said establishment of a trails system would help prevent the loss to the public of some existing trails; would provide access to areas of historical, natural, or recreational interest; and would help promote tourism in Alaska. "By promoting tourism, a statewide trail system would help bring additional revenues into the state," Fischer said. "At a time when our revenues are declining, this is an important incentive for a statewide trail system."

The resolution also asks the governor to provide for standards, procedures, and management guidelines for designating trails within a statewide system; and asks the governor to prepare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system. The five-year plan would include annual reports to the Legislature beginning next session.

(more)

"A statewide trail system would not only allow Alaskans more recreational opportunities, it would also allow them a greater appreciation of the grandeur of our state and just how fortunate we are to be Alaskans," Fischer said.

-30-

For further information, contact:
Ginger Baim, Tel.: 465-4954

042083