

SCR

49

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

5/4

(7)

Date referred: 4/5/88

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Resources

DATE: <sup>5</sup>~~5-3-88~~

The Health, Education and Social Services Committee has considered SCR 49

Encouraging mining education and earth science programs within the state.

### RECOMMENDS

- replace with \_\_\_\_\_  the same title
- attached amendment(s)  a new title
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

ADOPTS:  \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent

### ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

- fiscal impact  same as previous fiscal note published \_\_\_\_\_
- zero fiscal note  same as previous zero fiscal note published 3/11/88
- zero with analysis

### SIGNING DO PASS:

### SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

*[Handwritten signatures: Bill Kasper, J. E. ...]*

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*[Handwritten signature: Bill Kasper]*  
 Co-Chairman's signature  
*[Handwritten signature: J. E. ...]*

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Affected: Education  
Title: Encouraging mining education BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor: Coghill Components: \_\_\_\_\_  
Requestor: Sponser

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OF RATING	FY 88	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING		0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL						
REVENUE						

FUNDING: (Thousa of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND		0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL						

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Steve Hole Phone: 465-2800  
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 3-10-88  
Approved by Commissioner: William G. Demmert Date: 3-10-88  
Agency: Department of Education

Distribution (by preparer):

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

Introduced: 2/12/88  
Referred: Health, Education and  
Social Services and Resources

5-1727a

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Encouraging mining education and earth

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science programs within the state.

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

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WHEREAS the extraction of minerals from the earth has supplied mate-

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rials to open the doors of progress throughout history; and

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WHEREAS minerals and their use are vital to the continuation of civi-

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lization; and

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WHEREAS the ability of the Alaska mining industry to survive, prosper,

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and be internationally competitive is vital to the economic well-being of

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future generations of Alaskans; and

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WHEREAS the University of Alaska was originally a land grant school as

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the Alaska School of Mines and Agriculture and was dedicated to the orderly

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development of minerals and arable land in the Territory of Alaska; and

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WHEREAS the School of Mines contributed during territorial days to the

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establishment of a prosperous mining industry within the state; and

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WHEREAS the increased interest of major mining companies in Alaskan

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minerals has led to the understanding that a trained and knowledgeable

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workforce is required to operate the new mines; and

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WHEREAS the University of Alaska Southeast, in cooperation with the

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mining and petroleum training services of the University of Alaska

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Anchorage, has initiated such a training program; and

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WHEREAS the concepts for the training program were developed by the

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Southeast Regional Mining Advisory Committee; and

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WHEREAS there is a statewide need for programs that train mine workers

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and for local and regional mining advisory committees; and

1           WHEREAS the mining industry and the federal government have shown a  
2 willingness to fund these programs, an example of which is the Greens Creek  
3 Mine Training Project; and

4           WHEREAS the Greens Creek Mine Training Program is a pilot program that  
5 will be a blueprint for other mine training programs of other regions of  
6 the state;

7           BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is  
8 respectfully requested to direct the Alaska Minerals Commission to work  
9 cooperatively with the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska and the  
10 Southeast Regional Mining Advisory Committee to review the educational and  
11 labor needs of the emerging mining industry in the state and make recommen-  
12 dations for the achievement of those needs to the First Session of the  
13 Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature; and be it

14           FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska  
15 is requested to assess the statewide capacity of the university to meet  
16 future mineral development needs and prepare a plan to meet those needs and  
17 to present the plan to the First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State  
18 Legislature.

19           COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Board of Regents of the  
20 University of Alaska.



# Institute of Mining Technology

The University of Alaska Southeast

125 6th St.  
Juneau, Ak 99801  
(907) 463-4840

To: Curt McVee: Chairman Alaska Mining Asso.  
Re: Assessment - Alaska Underground Mining - for publication  
From: J. Wayne Erickson: Coordinator Institute of Mining Technology

April, 1944 was a history making date in the annals of Alaska Mining. It was during this month 44 years ago that the underground mining industry in Alaska ceased to exist with the closing of the AJ mine in Juneau. By government decree, **there was no longer the manpower available to work this mine.** A war was yet to be won.

April 8, 1988 is of equal historic value for it marks the formal rebirth of the underground mining in Alaska with the completion of **the first program to provide trained manpower** for this industry. This too is happening in Juneau: **Graduation of 140 students** of the original 210 enrolled marks the first of its kind in this cooperative effort between private industry, state and federal agencies all under the auspices of the University system.

**Over 38,000 hours of student instruction was provided** covering 26 different subjects, all related to the mining industry. The one theme throughout the course is mine safety. That safety can best be obtained by understanding the language of the underground mine coupled with a broad base of knowledge of the functions of mining.

Safety is the basis of MSHA (Mine Safety and Health Administration) certification program. MSHA requires that all underground miners be certified, that they have a minimum of 40 hours of safety instruction. As of **March 1, 1987 Alaska had 14 such certified miners.** Now, with an additional 8 hours of on the job instruction, this labor pool can be expanded by a factor of 10. All but two of the students being Alaskans and **over 20 are natives.**

This training occurs at a time when the world mineral markets are strong. When South Africa, the modern world's major source of metals, is in the midst of social and political unrest. Because of this, the world mining industry is looking at the abundant mineral and labor resources of Alaska. They **will open new mines if we can now provide them with the proper political environment.**

It is also a time when jobs are needed most in Alaska. When the flow of oil dollars is diminishing, when the people of Alaska are aware that the state must have other industry than just the spending of state oil dollars. An awareness is also growing that **much of the prime mineral land and underground mine potential is owned by the native corporations and that meaningful employment can and will do much to reduce the social and economic problems of our bush communities.**

Perhaps the most important development is the realization by Alaskans that, if measured in man years of meaningful employment, underground mining represents the greatest possible utilization of a section of land compared to any other productive use. It also has the least potential of negative natural environmental impact if conducted by responsible mine management and responsive governmental agencies.

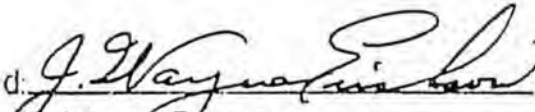
Alaska has long been aware of the abundance of its natural resources but this is the first time in four decades that the economic, the political and now the potential availability of trained manpower have come together to form the foundation for the strong rebirth of the Alaskan underground mining industry.

It is very appropriate that this should be occurring in the place where the industry died. A community built upon the physical remains of the mines of Juneau. Now this industry, with the political support of this administration, this legislature, can literally place thousands to work.

The politicians supporting the underground mining industry can do much to reduce the human suffering of the unemployed, the underemployed of Alaska.

But will they?

Signed:

  
J. Wayne Erickson

**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST**  
**Office of Continuing Education**

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11120 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801 • (907) 789-4476

Memo

TG: Representative Peter Goll

From: Lea Paavola, Director  
Continuing Education  
University of Alaska Southeast

Re: Requested Statistics on the Greens Creek Mine Training Project

Date: 1-21-88

As requested, here is the racial break down for the participants in the first two training sessions.

	Male	Female
Asians	1	0
Blacks	1	0
Hispanic	1	0
American Indian	2	1
Alaska Native	24	4
White	77	5

The racial breakdown for the last session hasn't been finalized, due to the constant nature of change associated with the "typical" student, that of low or unemployment.

As to location of the students, there is currently one from Angoon, two from Haines, one from Hoonah, one from Seward, one from Etolin, one from Fairbanks, four from Ketchikan, two from California, and the rest listed as Juneau.

The figures on residence may not be accurate, because in some instances, the students are listing their local address, (they are all currently living in Juneau) and not their home address.

Thank you for your interest in this most important project, if I can be of further assistance, please call.

# HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(9)

Date referred: 5/4/88

FURTHER REFERRALS:

DATE: 5-5-88

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Encouraging mining education and earth science programs within the state.

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**SIGNING DO PASS:**

Jan Carl  
[Signature]  
Peavey  
Dick Stuntz  
Timothy Springer  
Adelheid Herrmann

**SIGNING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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Jan Carl  
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 Chairman's signature