

SUR

36

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

FURTHER

4/26/89

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE 3/21/90

Mr. President:

FINANCE

Committee considered SJR 36

Congress to reserve a highway corridor or setback along the east shoreline of Lynn Canal

and recommended

- replace with CS SJR 36 (Finance) same title
- or adopt CS new title
- attached amendment(s) and technical title change (HB only)
- letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

- FISCAL NOTE(S) ^{DOT/PF} zero fiscal impact appropriation no FN
- new updated previous
 - same as previous fiscal note(s) published _____

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Dean

Paul G. Frank

Paul J. Haroff

Jim D. Miller

R

John S. [Signature] DO PASS *Paul G. Frank* (DO PASS)

Chair: signature and recommendation

Committee Backup attached

STATE OF ALASKA
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: SJR 36
PUBLISH DATE: 4/26/89

FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: 3-16-89
Title: Requesting Congress to Reserve a
Highway Corridor for Lynn Canal Road

Agency Affected: DOT&PF
BRU:

Sponsor: Coghill
Requestor: Senate Transportation

Components:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTURAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER*	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

SEE ATTACHED

Prepared by: R. T. Mcketa, Chief of Planning
Division: Southeast Region, DOT&PF

Phone: 789-6264
Date: 4-7-89

Approved by Commissioner: Mark S. Hickey *MSH*
Agency: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Date: 4/10/89

Distribution (by preparer):
Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

Changes in CS SJR 36 (Fin)
have no fiscal impact.
This fiscal note is
appropriate. 3/21/90 ml
Lack of fiscal impact
would continue beyond
1996.

ANALYSIS - SJR 36

Senate Joint Resolution 36 (SJR 36) requests the Congress to reserve a two-mile wide highway corridor along the east side of Lynn Canal for the purpose of accommodating a future Juneau-Haines-Skagway road connection.

No detailed planning, environmental, or engineering studies have been completed that would allow the department to identify a specific preferred road alignment or other design criteria. Therefore, neither the location nor width of the needed corridor can be positively determined at this time.

There is no fiscal impact from the Resolve.

Original sponsor(s): SEN. COGHILL

IN THE SENATE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36 (Finance)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Requesting the Congress to honor the recommendations of the Southeast Conference in the classification of land along the east shoreline of Lynn Canal.

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

WHEREAS, of all the continental states of the United States, Alaska's capital, Juneau, is the only one that is not connected by highway to the rest of the state, denying most Alaskans direct land access to the seat of government; and

WHEREAS one option for improved access that is under consideration by the Alaska legislature is a road on the east side of Lynn Canal, known as the Lynn Canal Highway Project; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that opening the Lynn Canal Highway would precipitate a four-fold increase in visitor traffic between Juneau and the communities of Upper Lynn Canal; and

WHEREAS completion of the Lynn Canal Highway Project would allow the Alaska Marine Highway System to improve ferry services to communities of Southeastern Alaska; and

WHEREAS the proposed highway route of the Lynn Canal Highway Project would pass almost entirely through federal and state land, requiring almost no purchase of private property; and

WHEREAS, at the time of withdrawal of land for designation of wilderness area within the Tongass National Forest known as the Endicott River Wilderness area, Congress established a six-mile corridor or setback along the west side of Lynn Canal for future economic and access needs; and

WHEREAS a similar corridor or setback along the east side of Lynn Canal would allow continued consideration of the Lynn Canal Highway Project; and

WHEREAS the legislature has directed the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to conduct an environmental impact statement analysis of all possible options that will result in improved access to and from Juneau, including roads up both the east and west sides of Lynn Canal; and

WHEREAS commitment by the state to proceed with construction of the project identified as most feasible in the environmental impact statement will result in eligibility of the project for federal-aid highway funding; and

WHEREAS the legislature has demonstrated its commitment to improved access through a 1989 general fund appropriation of \$100,000 for completion of phase I of the environmental impact statement; and

WHEREAS phase I of the environmental impact statement is nearing completion and the legislature is committed to providing an appropriation for the remaining two phases of the environmental impact statement; and

WHEREAS there is legislation currently pending in the Congress that may designate certain areas within the Tongass National Forest as wilderness, including an area located in Berners Bay, north of Juneau; and

WHEREAS designation of a portion of a possible road route on the east side of Lynn Canal as wilderness would effectively eliminate that option as a means of improving access;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature asks the United States Congress, in its deliberations relating to the Tongass National Forest in the Lynn Canal area north of Juneau, to conform to recommendations of the Southeast Conference that land along the east shoreline of Lynn Canal be classified as protected against commercial timber harvest without disallowing other necessary uses.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable George J. Mitchell, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Samuel K. Skinner, U.S. Secretary of Transportation; the Honorable Robert A. Mosbacher, U.S. Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable Clayton K. Yeutter, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture; and the Honorable Manuel Lujan, Jr., U.S. Secretary of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

Introduced: 3/16/89
Referred: Transportation and
Finance

6-1036A

2/12/90
Coghill
note & Amend.

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL

2

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Requesting the Congress to reserve a

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highway corridor or setback along the

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east shoreline of Lynn Canal.

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

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WHEREAS, of all the continental states of the United States, Alaska's
10 capital, Juneau, is the only one that is not connected by highway to the
11 rest of the state, denying most Alaskans direct land access to the seat of
12 government; and

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WHEREAS there is currently pending in the Alaska State Legislature
14 legislation that would authorize and appropriate money for the construction
15 of the Lynn Canal Highway Project, consisting of a highway and shuttle
16 ferry facilities, linking Juneau with Haines and Skagway; and

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WHEREAS, in addition to improving direct land access to the seat of
18 government, the Lynn Canal Highway Project is important to the economies of
19 the communities of Lynn Canal because it would enhance diversity of the
20 economies of these communities; and

21

WHEREAS the proposed highway would pass through highly mineralized
22 areas that are currently being developed into operating mines; and

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WHEREAS it is estimated that opening the Lynn Canal Highway would
24 precipitate a four-fold increase in visitor traffic between Juneau and the
25 communities of Upper Lynn Canal; and

26

WHEREAS completion of the Lynn Canal Highway Project would allow the
27 Alaska Marine Highway System to terminate its mainline ferries at Juneau
28 and thereby allow for improved ferry services to the remaining communities
29 served by ferry in Southeastern Alaska; and

1 WHEREAS the proposed Lynn Canal Highway Project would qualify for
2 federal matching funds for its construction; and

3 WHEREAS the proposed highway route of the Lynn Canal Highway Project
4 would pass almost entirely through federal and state lands, requiring
5 almost no purchase of private property; and

6 WHEREAS a federally-designated wilderness area has been proposed for
7 the headwaters of Berners Bay that, if approved, would incorporate part of
8 the route of the Lynn Canal Highway Project; and

9 WHEREAS the proposed wilderness area would work an extreme hardship on
10 the developing hardrock mines in the area, as well as precluding potential
11 timber, fishery, tourism, and travel activities of the private sector; and

12 WHEREAS, at the time of withdrawal of lands for designation of wilder-
13 ness area within the Tongass National Forest known as the Endicott River
14 Wilderness area, Congress established a six-mile corridor or setback along
15 the west side of Lynn Canal for future economic and access needs; and

16 WHEREAS, because the Lynn Canal Highway Project proposes a highway on
17 the east side of Lynn Canal, the west side corridor is not appropriate for
18 the needs of the project; and

19 WHEREAS a similar corridor or setback along the east side of Lynn
20 Canal would assist development of the Lynn Canal Highway Project;

21 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature asks the United
22 States Congress, in its deliberations relating to the Tongass National
23 Forest, to set aside a two-mile corridor or setback along the shoreline of
24 the east side of Lynn Canal, to be reserved specifically for a highway,
25 utility right-of-way, and related facilities, and to promote private sector
26 economic development activities.

27 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
28 President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of
29 the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable *Jim Tom*

Foley
1 ~~Wright~~, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable George
2 J. Mitchell, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Samuel K.
3 Skinner, U.S. Secretary of Transportation; the Honorable Robert A.
4 Mosbacher, U.S. Secretary of Commerce; the Honorable Clayton K. Yeutter,
5 U.S. Secretary of Agriculture; and the Honorable Manuel Lujan, Jr., U.S.
6 Secretary of the Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honor-
7 able Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
8 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.