

HCR

9

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Transportation Committee

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HCR 9

Relating to Alaska School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

House Concurrent Resolution 9 acknowledges the dedication and efforts by the many school bus drivers across the state. Most of us encounter school bus drivers consistently throughout the school year. It is our hope that this resolution will serve as a constant reminder to all Alaskans of the tremendous responsibility we have entrusted them with.

9-LS0612AF
Utermohle
2/14/95

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9(TRA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to Alaska School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

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

3 WHEREAS approximately 800 school bus drivers are on the roads of Alaska every
4 school day throughout the year beginning about 6:00 a.m.; and

5 WHEREAS these school bus drivers are trained professionals to whom we entrust the
6 safety and well-being of our most important resource, our children; and

7 WHEREAS our school bus drivers are completely in charge of the bus and the students
8 during their rides to and from school; and

9 WHEREAS school bus drivers are often called on to make decisions that affect the health
10 and safety of their passengers, sometimes in life-threatening situations; and

11 WHEREAS our school buses transport approximately 46,750 students each day and this
12 transportation during a year covers more than 7,400,000 miles; and

13 WHEREAS, in snow, sleet, rain, and storms, we depend on our school bus drivers to
14 deliver our students safely; and

15 WHEREAS we wish to express our sincere appreciation to each and every Alaska school
16 bus driver and recognize them for their important contribution to the education of our children;

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature designates the first Friday in May
2 as "Alaska School Bus Driver Appreciation Day"; and be it

3 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the legislature respectfully requests the governor to
4 proclaim the first Friday in May of each year as "Alaska School Bus Driver Appreciation Day."



Alaska School Bus Safety Committee

February 8, 1995

Representative Gary Davis
Rm 15 State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Davis:

On behalf of the Alaska School Bus Safety Committee, I would like to extend our support of HCR #9 relating to Alaska School Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

School bus drivers hold one of the toughest jobs in the state while receiving very little recognition for their efforts. It is certainly not the hourly wage that keeps good drivers returning year after year! Like the mailman, they perform their duties come rain, sleet or snow, and (unlike the mailman) they do it with their backs to as many as 80 young people at one time. They are on the job as early as 5:00 am in the morning, greeting our young people and giving them safe transport to school.

Those of us in the school bus transportation business appreciate the State's recognition of our bus drivers and their contribution to the health and well-being of our most precious commodity. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Penny Little
Alaska School Bus Safety Committee

Letter of Support

"School Bus Safety Is A Lifetime Reward"

Alaska State Legislature



Official Business
Fax: (907) 465-3472

Speaker of the House of Representatives

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
(907) 465-3720
(907) 465-2689

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HCR 9
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY
by REPRESENTATIVE GAIL PHILLIPS

I would like to lend my support to the passage of HCR 9 by this committee. This resolution establishes a special day for us all to recognize the many contributions school bus drivers make to our society. These individuals have been relied upon by those of us with children for many years; and, to my knowledge, no formal recognition of their efforts has ever been made.

As the resolution states, we count on these drivers, no matter what the weather, to transport our children to school. We are entrusting them with the safety and welfare of our children on a daily basis. Without them, each of our lives would be much more complicated, many more trips by individual parents would be made to transport our children to school, and - no doubt, many accidents would ensue just because of the increased number of miles traveled.

Frequently we do not take the time to acknowledge these individuals, and I think our doing so is long past due. Again, I urge your passage of this resolution to allow us all the opportunity to thank our school bus drivers.