

**HB**

**384**

FISCAL NO.

No: 1

STATE OF ALASKA  
2000 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NO. Bill Version: CSHB 384 (EDT)  
BILL VE (H) Publish Date: 3/15/00  
PUBLIS

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \*An Act establishing the Legislative  
Road Development Task Force; and providing....  
Sponsor: Representative Rokeberg  
Requestor: Hse Spec Comm on Economic Dev...

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency  
BRU: Legislative Council  
Component: Council and Subcommittees

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05	FY 06
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
TRAVEL	5.8	0	0	0	0	0.0
CONTRACTUAL	1.5	0	0	0	0	0.0
SUPPLIES	2.3	0	0	0	0	0.0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	9.6	0	0	0	0	0.0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	9.6	0	0	0	0	0.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	9.6	0	0	0	0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0.0

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

HB 384 establishes an eleven member Legislative Road Development Task Force. The task force will be composed of 7 public members, 2 Legislators, and 2 state officials. The task force shall identify roads that are important to the future economic development of the state, study and research the feasibility of upgrading roads, and establish a priority ranking for projects to develop or upgrade those roads. The task force shall submit a report of its findings to the Legislature and the Governor before the 22nd Alaska State Legislature convenes.

Prepared By: Karla Scholfield, Deputy Director *Karla Scholfield* Phone: 465-3852  
Division: Administrative Services Date: 3/3/00

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director *Pamela A. Varni*  
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency Date: 3/3/00

Personal Services

The existing staff of the Senator and Representative Co-Chairs of the task force will serve as staff to the task force. 0.0

Travel

It is anticipated that the task force will conduct most of their meetings by teleconference. One 2 day trip is anticipated to Anchorage in FY01. For the purposes of this fiscal note the 7 public members are assumed to be 2 from Fairbanks, 2 from Anchorage, 1 from Juneau, 1 from Kotzebue, and 1 from Ketchikan.

Travel costs for the DOTPF and DCED Commissioners or their designees will be paid for by the Executive Branch.

		Airfare	Per Diem		
<u>Public Members</u>					
Fairbanks	2	488	916		
Anchorage	2	0	0		
Juneau	1	470	458		
Kotzebue	1	621	458		
Ketchikan	1	756	458		
<u>Legislators</u>					
Anchorage	1	0	458		
Fairbanks	1	244	458		
		2,579	3,206	5,785	
				Total Travel	5.8

Contractual

Phone expenses for public members of the task force	500		
Postage expenses to mail out task force report	200		
Map and geological reproduction services	800		
	1,500	Total Contractual	1.5

The cost of printing the task force report will be absorbed within the Legislature's budget.

Supplies

It is anticipated that the task force will need to purchase geological information and maps. 2.3

Equipment

The task force will not need to purchase any equipment. 0.0

9.6



3100 Channel Drive, Suite 300 ♦ Juneau AK 99801

RECEIVED  
MAR 30 2000

(907) 463-3488 ♦ Fax (907) 463-3489

March 30, 2000

The Honorable Rep. Norman Rokeburg  
Alaska State House of Representatives  
Alaska State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: HB 384

Dear Representative Rokeburg:

The Juneau Chamber of Commerce has been asked for comments on HB 384. This is an interim letter on the subject because our Board of Directors will not be able to meet until April 13 to consider the matter. As an ex-officio member of the Board and chair of the Chamber's Transportation Committee, I was asked to offer some initial observations pending the arrival of a formal resolution from the Chamber.

The Chamber has long supported road access for Juneau for many of the same reasons that gave rise to HB384. There is undeniably a link between surface access and expanded economic opportunity and it is very important to give greater emphasis to expanding economic development opportunity when considering road improvements and new routes as HB 384 will do. In the same vein, the Chamber has expressed support for the recently adopted Southeast Transportation Plan. That plan also emphasizes the efficiencies and opportunities gained with improved surface transportation facilities, and of those, specifically roads.

Thank you for your efforts to expand economic opportunity in Alaska. In the view of this observer, HB 384 represents a substantial step in the right direction and I wish you the best of luck. Thank you also for the opportunity to comment and please be patient with us in regard to comment from the full Board.

Sincerely,

Murray R. Walsh  
Chair  
Juneau Chamber of Commerce  
Transportation Committee

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**House of Representatives**

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:**

LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, MEMBER  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MEMBER  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UTILITY RESTRUCTURING, MEMBER  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &  
TOURISM, MEMBER



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716 WEST 4TH AVENUE, SUITE 610  
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501  
PHONE: (907) 269-0117  
FAX: (907) 269-0119

SESSION:  
ALASKA STATE CAPITOL  
JUNEAU, AK 99801-1182  
PHONE: (907) 465-4968  
FAX: (907) 485-2010

e-mail: Representative\_Norman\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us

**Representative Norman Rokeberg**

**HB 384(EDT)H**

**ROKEBERG**  
**03/30/00**

*(AMENDMENT #17)*

**OFFERED IN THE HOUSE**

**TO: CSHB384(EDT), Draft Version "H"**

*#21*  
**Page 3, line 15, after Crooked Creek DELETE period after Crooked  
Creek and substitute ;**

**INSERT new subsection: (21) Tonsina North Access Road.**

**03/30/00 HNR:tjm**

*#22  
Juneau to Athol B.C.*

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2000

Subject:

HB No. 384(EDT)

Kenny Lake Soil and Water  
Conservation District

John Wenger

HCGO Box 280

Copper Center AK. 99573

822-5802

Rep. Rakebarr

We would like to amend

bill to include the TONSINA North

road, it's located in the Copper

County. It consists of app. 1 mile of

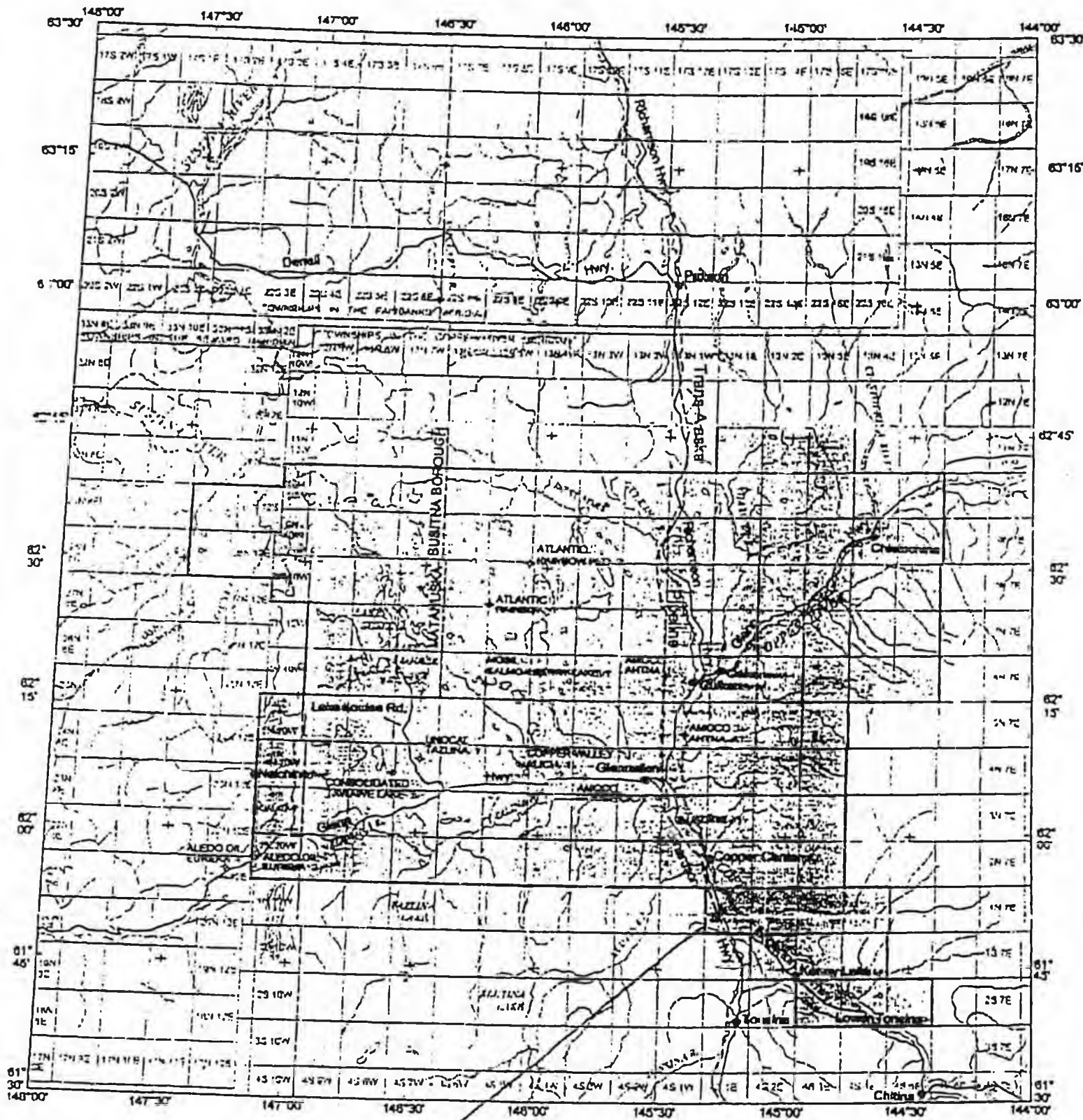
road and twenty foot across

TAP not yet built (TIN TIE)

Thanks very much

John Wenger

MAN



RECEIVED **Copper River Basin Exploration License**

MAR 27



*TONSINA North proj*

SCALE 1:1,000,000 One inch = 17.5 Miles Approx.

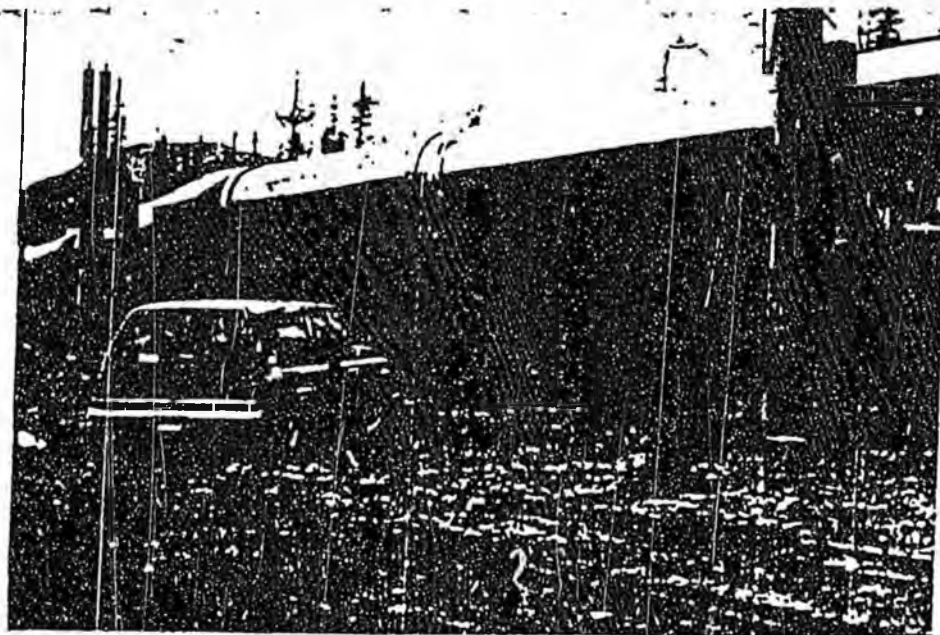
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 Miles

5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 Kilometers

Area of Study =

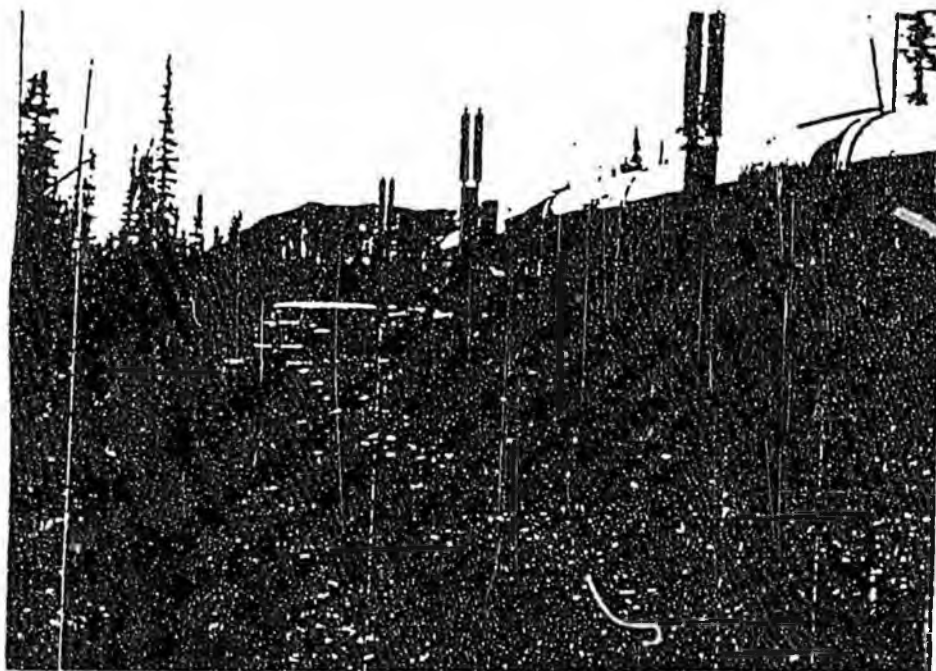


Albers Equal-Area Conic Projection, 1827 North American Datum, Clarke 1866 ellipsoid with a central meridian of 146°, origin latitude of 60°, northern parallel of 60°, and southern parallel of 60°. Map created, edited, and published by the Office of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas.



6-18-85

Proposed East-West crossing of TAPS at milepost 705.2. to provide access to proposed Tonsina North land disposal project (ASLS 79-41). The TAPS stationing at this point is 37234+93. With the exception of the below ground made pipe at the wildlife crossing at mile post 704.2 the pipe is in an above ground mode a minimum of 4 miles both North and South of the proposed crossings. (Reference Alyeska letter No. 84-2168).



6-18-85

This photo was taken looking South at the location where vehicles would pass underneath the pipe. "Headache" bars would be required to protect the pipe. Access control gates also would be required to prevent public access upon the pad. A ball park estimate indicates the costs involved for the headache bars and access control gate would be less than 25% of the estimated costs at M.P. 704.2. This access however would be oriented towards light vehicles and would preclude large industrial type equipment necessary for agricultural projects. It should be noted that the pipeline in an elevated above ground mode is indicative of marginally stable (permafrost?) soil conditions.

To: Mary Lasley  
Subject: Alaska Community Wish List 2000  
Date: February 23, 2000

### A PROMISE BROKEN; TWO ALASKAS

For the past twenty years the people of the Copper River Valley have been trying to secure land for small family farms. When the Trans Alaska Pipeline was built, it was promised not to create two Alaskas. In 1986 the Dept of Natural Resources created the Copper River Basin Area Plan for State lands and identified 6000 acres for agricultural purposes. All of the land is located on the west side of TAPS. As incredible as it may seem, there are no legal access crossings between the Tazlina River and Thompson Pass and only one (very limited) between the Klutina River and Tazlina River. In 1979 an area of 3,000 acres was surveyed in what is known as the Tonsina North Agricultural Project. We need to secure funding to upgrade the pioneer road leading into the project area and to build a 20 foot bridge across TAPS in which Alyeska Pipeline Service Co failed to provide us with. This crossing would not only give us 10 each 320 acres family farms, but the firewood and timber from other state lands in the same area totaling 130,000 acres.

Our people are sandwiched in between the pipeline and Wrangell Saint Elias National Park and Preserve. ( A World Heritage Site designated by the United Nations) Our greatest fear is the future placement of a buffer zone on our area. The fear is real and by signing the World Heritage Convention, the US promises to protect designated sites and to regulate surrounding lands.

By developing our natural resources in our valley, we can enhance our economy and lifestyles. Our children won't have to leave the area to find employment. With the prospects of the proposed Copper River Basin Oil and Gas Exploration comes hopes of cheaper energy for our local power utilities.

The State of Alaska has already spent \$300,000 on the survey of Tonsina North. A local land owner nearby has already promised to provide all the gravel for the road. All the State of Alaska has to do is to let us have the land. It is not an impossible feat! In the past several years we have had the Alaska Land Managers forum, TRAAK, AK DOT Scenic byways, NPS, Wrangell St. Elias Park, shoving big cooperation tourism down our throats. Not that we are against tourism, but a happy medium would be to let us have some land for our local year round economy. Our farming community is located on the Edgerton Highway in Kenny Lake, where they raise brome and alfalfa hay along with numerous vegetable crops, greenhouses for bedding plants, livestock such as beef cattle, hog, goats and chickens are being raised for personal and market sales. There are several fox farms in the area also.

Please take this into consideration;

Sincerely;



John Wenger

Chairman Soil and Water Conservation District, Kenny Lake Chapter  
February 23, 2000

MC 60 Box 280

Copper Center Alaska 99573

907-822-5802

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## DIVISION OF FORESTRY

TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR

Valdez/Copper River Area  
P O Box 185  
Glennallen, AK 99588-0185  
Phone (907)822-5534  
Fax (907)822-5539

March 18, 1990

Dear Mr. Stratman:

Recent correspondence with Doug Witt has rekindled an interest in the forestry potential within the agricultural project south of Copper Center.

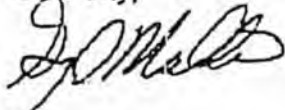
Historically, State land in this area has produced personal and commercial use fuelwood. In the late 80's the Division of Forestry offered a commercial sawlog/fuelwood sale east of the proposed agricultural site. The sale of this wood has always been local.

Access across the pipeline has always been the limiting factor in making additional wood available to the public. As incredible as it may seem, there are no legal access crossings between the Tazlina River and Thomson Pass and only one (very limited) between the Klutina River and the Tazlina River. Development of this crossing would be the first of its kind and be an access point for over 130,000 acres of State, Federal, Native, and private lands.

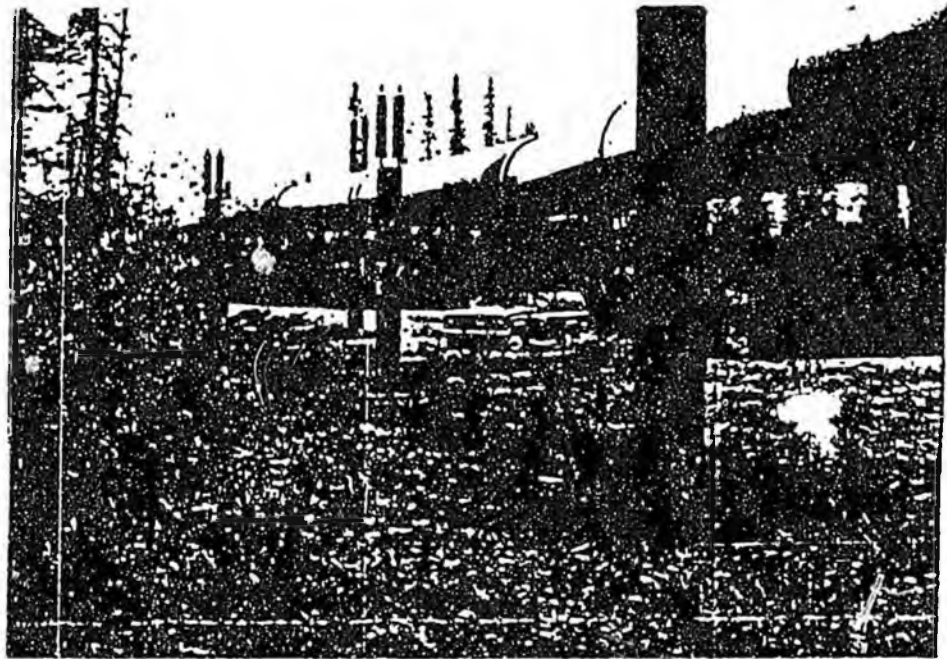
The Division of Forestry has identified approximately 200 acres within the proposed agricultural project that has the potential for a commercial timber sale. Our intentions are to have the area inventoried by late spring.

I look forward to the development of this access point and hope we can make available new State resources in the process. If you have any questions, I'll be happy to provide you with any information we have on this area. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Gary D. Mullen  
Forester | Valdez/ Copper River Area



6-18-85 Looking Northwesterly from Southeast of the proposed crossing.

---

Date: 3/30/00

From: Ruth McHenry

HC 60 Box 306T

COPPER CENTER, AK 99573 (KENNY LAKE)

(907) 622-3644

TO: HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

FAX (907) 465-2418

RE: HB 384 - LEGISLATIVE ROAD DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

FOR THE RECORD:

It is unclear what problems in "the future economic development of the state" this legislation seeks to address, and whether roads are the best solution to these problems. Would it not make more sense for residents of communities in roadless areas to identify the kind of economic development they want, and then consider what kind of transportation improvement (if any) would be needed for that development?

This proposed task force would consider only one transportation mode and would be a top-down approach, with the legislature, rather than residents of affected communities, proposing projects.

The proposed task force is badly off-balance, with only one member from an off-road community.

If the purpose of this legislation is to provide more employment in the road construction and trucking industries, it should do a bang-up job of that, but I probably don't need to point out that the legislature is having a difficult time finding maintenance dollars for the roads we do have.

Tony Knowles, Governor

*Alaska*

**Department of Community  
and Economic Development**

**Office of the Commissioner**

P.O. Box 110800, Juneau, AK 99811-0800

Telephone: (907) 465-2500 • Fax: (907) 465-5442 • TDD: (907) 465-5437

Email: [questions@dced.state.ak.us](mailto:questions@dced.state.ak.us) • Website: [www.dced.state.ak.us/](http://www.dced.state.ak.us/)

March 30, 2000

RECEIVED

MAR 30 2000

The Honorable Norman Rokeberg  
Alaska House of Representatives  
State Capitol Room 24  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

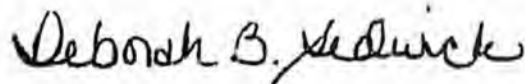
Dear Representative Rokeberg:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB384, "an Act establishing the Legislative Road Development Task Force." This bill provides an opportunity for me, or my designee, to serve along with Commissioner Perkins with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities as nonvoting members of the task force.

I have no objection to serving as a nonvoting member of the task force. As I understand the bill, the task force will rank road development projects. Road development projects have implications for many of the functions of my department ranging from promoting community and economic development to enhancing tourism. In addition the task force would be open to considering alternative transportation modes where appropriate.

Many of the road projects are currently part of regional plans being studied by DOT and in many cases road development may be the most efficient and effective approach to accomplish the goals of increased development. In those cases I will be pleased to offer the assistance of the department to expedite road development. The Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority stands by to provide its assistance in financing roads associated with the development of large projects.

Sincerely,



Deborah B. Sedwick  
Commissioner



March 30, 2000

## General Teamsters Local 959 State of Alaska

Affiliated with International Brotherhood of Teamsters  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503, 520 E. 34TH AVE (907) 565-8122 FAX (907) 565-0285 GERALD L. HOOD, Secretary-Treasurer

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707, P.O. Box 70609 (907) 452-2950 FAX (907) 452-6051  
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801, 308 Willoughby (907) 586-3225 FAX (907) 586-1227  
KENAI, ALASKA 99611, P.O. BOX 3150 (907) 283-4488 FAX (907) 283-8030

Representative Andrew Halcro  
Chair  
Transportation Committee  
State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: CS HB 384 Legislative Road Development Task Force

Dear Representative Halcro:

On behalf of the thousand of Teamsters that we represent throughout the State and many of whom transport goods on our road system, I would like to go on record in support of CS HB 384. The long-term viability of our State, as you and your committee members are aware, is dependent on a strong road system structure. We support the intent of this bill to identify those systems important to future economic growth and development throughout the State.

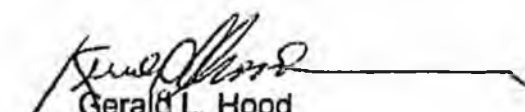
We also strongly believe that the intermodal transportation system needs to be considered as the task force looks at future development of our road systems. Due to the vast area of our State, the effective interlinking of our various transportation systems is the key to our successful ability to transport goods and provide an effective road system for the motoring public as well.

It is further imperative that the financial support of such development needs to be included in any and all considerations. Like any other infrastructure, the financial support to build must include a commitment to maintain such road structures in the future.

We appreciate your time and consideration in hearing this bill and your support in assuring that our road systems meet the needs and concerns of all Alaskans, not only in furthering economic development, but for the general motoring public as well.

Sincerely,

TEAMSTERS LOCAL 959

  
Gerald L. Hood  
Secretary-Treasurer



Representative Andrew Halcro  
March 30, 2000  
Page Two

cc: Representative Cowdery  
Representative Hudson  
Representative Kohring  
Representative Masek  
Representative Kemplen  
Representative Kookesh

F:\HOME\pgates\whf-legis\hb384 road.ltr

## POM for Representative Halcro



From: Mr. Frank J Dillon  
2240 Daybreak Ct

Telephone: 276-1149

Anchorage, AK 99501  
Email: rukavena@altavista.com

NON Constituent

Registered Voter: U

Bill: HB 384 Title: ROAD DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE  
Message:

Alaska Trucking Assn. memuvers urge you to support HB 384. The development of transportation infrastructure is absolutely vital for economic development. Failure to identify and support new roads will not allow diversification and economic expansion. HB 384 will provide a means for identifying needed road development.

Entered in ANC on 3/30/00 POMID: 4615

Distribution: 7

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Message 68 out of 69.

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## House of Representatives

### Committee Assignments:

Labor & Commerce Committee, Chairman  
Judiciary Committee, Member  
Legislative Council, Member

### Special Committees:

Utility Restructuring, Member  
Economic Development, Member

### Budget Subcommittees:

Commerce & Economic Development, Member  
Corrections, Member  
Labor, Member



### Interim:

716 West 4th Avenue, Suite 640  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
PHONE: (907) 269-0117  
FAX: (907) 269-0119

### SESSION:

State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
PHONE: (907) 465-4968  
FAX: (907) 465-2040

## REPRESENTATIVE NORMAN ROKEBERG

e-mail: [Representative\\_Norman\\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Norman_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us)

March 8, 2000

Representative Andrew Halcro, Chair,  
House Transportation Committee  
Capitol Building,  
Room 418  
Juneau, AK

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrew".

Dear Chairman Halcro:

I am submitting CS House Bill 384(EDT), along with the sponsor statement and sectional analysis for your consideration. I respectfully request you to schedule a House Transportation Committee hearing for HB 384(EDT) as soon as possible.

House Bill 384(EDT) establishes a Legislative Task force whose duties would include: research existing plans for road development in the state, identify roads that are important to Alaska's future economic development, study the feasibility of developing or upgrading the roads in order to promote future economic development, determine the availability and source of funds to develop or upgrade those roads, and establish a priority system for identified projects to develop or upgrade roads identified by the Task Force..

I strongly believe that HB 384(EDT) will enable and facilitate a better transportation infrastructure, to better develop many rural areas of Alaska to their full potential.

Thank you for your consideration in scheduling HB 384(EDT).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Norman H. Rokeberg".

Norman H. Rokeberg  
Representative  
District 11

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

## House of Representatives

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## REPRESENTATIVE NORMAN ROKEBERG

e-mail: [Representative\\_Norman\\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Norman_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us)

### SPONSOR STATEMENT HOUSE BILL 384(EDT)

**An Act establishing the Legislative Road Development Task Force; and providing for an effective date.**

House Bill 384(EDT) establishes a Legislative Task Force whose duties would include: research existing plans for road development in the state, identify roads that are important to Alaska's future economic development, study feasibility of developing or upgrading roads in order to promote future economic development, determine availability and source of funds to develop or upgrade those roads, and establish a priority ranking for project to develop or upgrade the roads identified by the Task Force. The Task Force would include 2 legislators (one from each body) to serve as co-chairs; and one member from: Alaska Trucking Association; International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 302; State Board of Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors; Alaska State Chamber of Commerce; Associated General Contractors of Alaska; Alaska Miners Association; Alaska Federation of Natives; and a member designated by Teamsters Local 959. One public member would round out the Task Force. The Commissioners of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and the Department of Community and Economic Development would serve as nonvoting members.

Without a better transportation infrastructure, many areas in Alaska cannot be developed to their full potential. Among the roads the Task Force should consider is: Williamsport Road from Iliamna Bay to Pile Bay, road to Pogo Mine; Rock Creek Road in the Nome area; Tazlina Lake road; road from Wasilla to Bethel; road from Wasilla to Tyonek; road along west short of Cook Inlet; road to Nome; road to Cordova; road to Ruby; road to Fort Yukon; Donlin Creek Road; road to Dillingham; road around northern end of Lake Iliamna; road from Rampart to Eurkea; upgrading the Dalton Highway; road from Ruby to McGrath; Healy to the Richardson Highway; Ruby to Takotna; Takotna to Flat to Crooked Creek and any other roads that the Task Force feels are important to develop.

Many of the roads listed above have been discussed by the House Special Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, upon which I serve. These discussions have impressed on me the need for some forward thinking when it comes to road projects. We need to get roads up and going to benefit all areas of the state. Besides natural resource projects, tourism could benefit from roads to all points of the state, thus offering smaller areas more economic opportunities. While new roads could be viewed as interrupting the way of life in rural areas, it is important to remember that if those rural areas want to remain viable, they need a transportation access for business, industry, or tourists.

The Task Force would complete its work and make recommends on the first day of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Alaska State Legislature (January 2001).

ED1:03/08/00

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Labor & Commerce Committee, Chairman  
Judiciary Committee, Member  
Legislative Council, Member

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Utility Restructuring, Member  
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PHONE: (907) 465-4968  
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## REPRESENTATIVE NORMAN ROKEBERG

e-mail: [Representative\\_Norman\\_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Representative_Norman_Rokeberg@legis.state.ak.us)

### SECTIONAL ANALYSIS HOUSE BILL 384(EDT)

**An Act establishing the Legislative Road Development Task Force; and providing for an effective date.**

**Section 1: Creates the Legislative Road Development Task Force. Sets forth membership and objectives of the Task Force. Lists some roads that should be considered with particular emphasis. Task Force is to meet as frequently as it desires and may meet and vote by teleconference. Compensation not to be paid to Task Force members but per diem and travel may be paid for all except legislative and commissioner members. A written report is to be presented to the Legislature and the Governor before the 22<sup>nd</sup> Alaska State Legislature convenes in January 2001.**

**Section 2: Act is repealed on first day of 2001 legislative session.**

**Section 3: Immediate effective date.**



# ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

3305 Arctic #202, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 • (907) 563-9229 • FAX: (907) 563-9225 • www.alaskaminers.org

March 6, 2000

Honorable Norman Rokeberg  
Alaska State House  
Capitol Building  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: House Bill 384, Legislative Road Development Task Force

Dear Representative Rokeberg,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on House Bill 384 which would establish a Legislative Road Development Task Force. This bill will provide a venue for discussing alternatives for new roads that are needed. The State planning process has focused on repair and maintenance of existing roads but has not effectively addressed the need for new roads.

We would recommend some additions to HB-384. The first is to add other routes into Section 1 that would be considered and these would be added in (e) as follows:

(16) a road from Ruby to Takotna;

(17) a road from Takotna to Flat to Crooked Creek;

These two roads would provide improved surface access via marginal and unimproved roads and RS-2477s that already exist and would connect the village of Ruby on the Yukon River with the village of Crooked Creek on the Kuskokwim River. In doing so the road would provide access for the villages and for various mining areas along the route which include Ruby, Long, Poorman, Colorado Creek, Ganes Creek, Yankee Creek, Ophir, Flat- Iditarod, and Donlin Creek.

(18) a road from Healy to the Richardson Highway;

This road will provide a "loop" route for tourism based in Fairbanks and access to many streams that can provide tremendous float-trip opportunities from the road down to the Tanana River. The road would also provide access to some of the mineralized lands along the north flank of the Alaska Range.

The other changes we suggest involve the make-up of the Task Force. We suggest that the Alaska Miners Association be included as a voting member. Mining is often the first industry to utilize new roads and thereby add to the economy of the local areas where the roads are built. We also suggest that the respective Native Regional Corporations be included whenever roads are being discussed that access their private lands. These Native Corporations and their villages have much to gain if roads are developed and they also have concerns and views that should be raised in the Task Force.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill. We look forward to working with you as it moves forward.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Borell, P.E.  
Executive Director

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**ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS of ALASKA**

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8. March 2000

To  
Representative  
Norman Rokeberg  
State Legislature  
Juneau, AK

via FAX 1-907-465-2040

Subject: CS HB 384, establishing a Legislative Road Development Task Force.

Dear Representative Rokeberg:

The Associated General Contractors of Alaska support this idea and initiative. Adequate surface transportation is a key factor in economic development. It is time to recognize that we have not built any new roads in the past decade and some action in that direction is overdue. This taskforce can address the priorities and the report will be a useful tool to implement a program.

Sincerely,

for Richard Cattanach  
Executive Director