

**HB**

**1 1 4**

<target><bill>HB 114</bill><subject>HB  
114</subject><comm>HFIN26</comm></target>

Chair, Judiciary  
Chair, Economic Development,  
Trade & Tourism  
Energy  
Military & Veteran Affairs  
Joint Armed Services  
1292 Sadler Way, Suite 324  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
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# Alaska State Legislature House of Representatives



While in Session  
State Capitol, Room 118  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
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## Representative Jay Ramras District 10

### Sponsor Statement HB 114

“An Act relating to availability of state transportation facilities and state-owned or state-operated transportation modes for delivering compassionate aid.”

House Bill 114 is a compassionate aid bill that would enable the Governor to use state transportation to provide aid to Alaska communities in times of eminent disaster without declaring a disaster.

In the initial week of the 26<sup>th</sup> Legislative session, the village of Emmonak wrote a declaration of economic disaster to the Department of Commerce, Community and, Economic Development. As private and public entities worked together to raise donations of money and food for relief to Emmonak it became apparent that they were not the only village in desperate need of aid and attention. The following weeks, Representative Ramras and his staff worked with the Fairbanks and Anchorage Food Banks and local faith based organizations to raise over 30,000 pounds of food for eleven villages in Western Alaska.

Due to the current restrictions, state transportation could not be used because a disaster had not been declared. Consequently, Representative Ramras and staff had two options: 1) use the monetary donations towards transportation; thus taking away precious funds for additional food or 2) work with transportation companies to provide their services for free or discounted rates.

Ultimately, based on the collective generosity of a few transportation companies, the food was able to arrive in all of the eleven villages.

House Bill 114 would reduce the need to spend donated funds on transportation and instead, allow a sharper focus on gathering the resources needed for relief.

Representative\_Jay\_Ramras@legis.state.ak.us



# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1  
Bill Version: CSHB 114(TRA)  
(H) Publish Date: 3/13/09

Identifier (file name): HB114-DMVA-HS&EM-2-17-09 Dept. Affected: Dept of Military and Veterans Affairs  
Title: An Act relating to availability of state transportation facilities RDU: Military and Veterans Affairs  
and state-owned or operated transportation modes.... Component: Homeland Security & Emerg. Mgmt  
Sponsor: Rep Ramras, Dahlstrom, Millett, Johansen, Edgmon, Peterson....  
Requester: TRA Component Number: 2657

## Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants & Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
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## FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1003 GF Match	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1037 GF/Mental Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Interagency Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: 0.0

### POSITIONS

Full-time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

Prepared by: McHugh Pierre, Legislative Liaison/Communications Director  
Division: National Guard Military Headquarters/Office of the Commissioner  
Approved by: Commissioner Craig Campbell  
Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Phone 465-4402  
Date/Time 2/17/09 @ 11:00 am  
Date 2/17/2009

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bill Version: CSHB114(TRA)  
 () Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name): CSHB114-dfg-CO-3-16-09 Dept. Affected: ADF&G  
 Title An act relating to availability of state transportation facilities RDU Administration and Support  
and state-owned or state-operated... Component Commissioner's office  
 Sponsor Rep. Ramras, Dahlstrom, Millett, Johansen, et all  
 Requester House Finance Component Number 2175

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact to the department.

Prepared by: Jeff Hoover, Deputy Director Phone 465-6077  
 Division: Administrative Services Date/Time 3/16/09 2:00 PM  
 Approved by: Tom Lawson, Director of Administrative Services Date 3/16/2009  
Department of Fish and Game

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Version: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name): HB114CS-DOT-AS-C0-3-16-09

Dept. Affected: DOT&PF

Title \_\_\_\_\_

RDU Administration and Support

Sponsor H. Ramras

Commissioners Office

Requester H TRA

Component Number 530

**Expenditures/Revenues**

(Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>								

**FUND SOURCE**

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITIONS**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

no fiscal impact

Prepared by: Mary Siroky, Legislative Liaison  
Division: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
Approved by: Nancy Slagle, Admin Director  
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities

Phone 465-4772  
Date/Time 3/16/09 1:45PM  
Date 3/16/2009

# FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA  
2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Version: CSHB 114 (TRA)  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name): HB114CS(TRA)-CED-ARR-03-16-09 Dept. Affected: DCCED  
Title: State Transportation Assets deliver compassionate aid RDU  
Component: Alaska Railroad Corporation  
Sponsor: Representative Ramras  
Requester: House Finance Committee Component Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2010	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2009) cost: 0.0

**POSITIONS**

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

If the Governor determines that public safety or health conditions in an area of the state require emergency assistance, the Governor can utilize state transportation assets to deliver compassionate aid. This legislation would provide that the Alaska Railroad Corporation would not be liable in tort for damages, for the injury to or death of a person, or property damage resulting from assistance provided. Because the Alaska Railroad does not receive state funding for operations or capital improvements, HB 114 would not provide a railroad related cost to the state. The cost to provide this service to the Alaska Railroad would depend on the number of rail cars and locomotive power needed, crew requirements, and the destination.

Prepared by: Wendy Lindskoog, Assistant Vice President, Corporate Affairs Phone 907-265-2498  
Division: Alaska Railroad Corporation Date/Time 3-16-09 11:00 a.m.  
Approved by: Emil Notti, Commissioner Date 3/16/2009  
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 114(TRA)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 3/13/09**

**Referred: Finance**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES RAMRAS, Dahlstrom, Millett, Johansen, Edgmon, Petersen, Holmes, Foster, Johnson, Tuck, Gruenberg, Salmon, Coghill, Thomas, Joule, Muñoz**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to availability of state transportation facilities and state-owned or**  
2 **state-operated transportation modes for delivering compassionate aid."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 44.19 is amended by adding a new section to article 2 to read:

5 **Sec. 44.19.051. Emergency assistance transportation; immunity.** (a) If the  
6 governor determines that public safety or health conditions in an area of the state  
7 require emergency assistance, the governor may make available state transportation  
8 facilities, state-owned aircraft, vessels of the marine highway system, or railroad  
9 rolling stock of the Alaska Railroad for use by nonprofit organizations to deliver  
10 compassionate aid to the area, including food, water, fuel, clothing, medicine, and  
11 supplies.

12 (b) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the state and its officers, agents,  
13 and employees and the Alaska Railroad Corporation and its officers, agents, and  
14 employees are not liable in tort for damages for the injury to or death of a person or

1 property damage resulting from assistance provided under (a) of this section.

Raymond J. Watson, Chairperson  
Myron P. Naneng, Sr., President  
Phone (907)543-7300  
Fax (907)543-3389

**AVCP**  
The Association of Village Council Presidents  
Office of Administration  
Pouch 219, Bethel, AK 99559



Comments for the record  
26<sup>th</sup> Alaska State Legislature  
House Transportation / Finance Committee

by

Myron P. Naneng, Sr., President  
Regarding HB 114

February 9, 2009

**BILL:** HB 114

**BILL VERSION:**

**CURRENT STATUS:** (H) TRA

THEN FIN

**SHORT TITLE:** USE STATE TRANS FACILITY  
FOR DISASTER AID

**STATUS DATE:** 02/04/09

**SPONSOR(s):** REPRESENTATIVE(s) RAMRAS, Dahlstrom, Millett, Johansen, Edgmon, Petersen, Holmes, Foster, Johnson, Tuck, Gronberg, Salmon, Coghill, Thomas, Joule, Munoz

**TITLE:** "An Act relating to availability of state transportation facilities and state-owned or state-operated transportation modes for delivering compassionate aid during a disaster emergency."

We at the Association of Village Council Presidents, Inc. (AVCP) are grateful for Representative Ramras and the co-sponsors of HB 114 in an effort to make use of State transportation resources to ship out compassionate aid to remote, rural Alaska communities in our Yukon Kuskokwim region.

My name is Myron Naneng, I am President of our regional non-profit corporation made up of 56 federally recognized Tribes in the YK Delta. While energy and food relief has been pouring into our communities suffering from food shortages and crippling fuel prices, the efforts have until this point remained primarily by private citizens and groups. We would also like to recognize and thank the redirect of donated Energy Rebates under the United Way.

In the last several weeks, Representative Jay Ramras, has focused on directing some of his food drive activities for relief to our communities. We appreciate his efforts, and are sorry that he, along with other private donors, has been burdened with the shipping expense of getting this compassionate aid out to our remote villages. Our calls to the Governor's office to address our energy crisis have largely gone ignored, and this bill, along with SB 88 and SB 91 finally has State efforts come into play.

Last week, we testified in favor of extending the PCE program and instituting a fuel cap on costs beyond \$3 a gallon. Since early last summer, tribal leaders as well as myself were justifiably concerned about our coming winter since we were forced to prepay our winter fuel purchases for our tank farms at the highest costs of oil on record.

Because we are roadless, all of our villages have to import fuel by barge or by air in emergencies. In most cases, we have no choice but to sign no-fault contracts with fuel vendors if weather or acts of god prevent a scheduled delivery. Some of our villages, with human resources turnover or other constraints, are unable to make their fuel orders in concordance to State programs such as the bulk fuel loan in time to lock in at more agreeable rates. Factors such as these aggravate the already challenging nature of providing light and heat to our communities with little or no energy infrastructure.

With continued and full funding by the Legislature of the Renewable Energy Fund coupled with possible federal stimulus infrastructure funds, we may be looking at a reality where accessible energy sources come to fruition in a matter of years, rather than a matter of decades. With affordable energy at the village level, a failed fishing season would not break us as badly as this hard winter has shown.

- Akiachak
- Aldak
- Alakanak
- Andreasfky
- Aniak
- Atmautluak
- Bethel
- Bill Moore's St.
- Cheforuk
- Chevak
- Chouthlak
- Chulonaawick
- Crooked Creek
- Eek
- Emmonsak
- Georgetown
- Goodnews Bay
- Hamilton
- Hooper Bay
- Lower Katsikag
- Upper Katsikag
- Katigluk
- Kipruk
- Kongiganak
- Kotlik
- Kwethluk
- Kwigillingok
- Lime Village
- Marshall
- Mekoryuk
- Mtn. Village
- Napalmute
- Napakiak
- Napashlak
- Newtok
- Nightmute
- Nunakuyak
- Nunam Iqa
- Nunapitchuk
- Obegamiut
- Oscarville
- Paimint
- Pilot Station
- Pitka's Point
- Platinum
- Quinhagak
- Red Devil
- Russias Mission
- Seaman Bay
- Sleetmute
- St. Mary's
- Stony River
- Tuluksak
- Tuntutulak
- Tanana
- Umanmiut

Though Governor Palin herself has not directly acknowledged the fishery or fuel crisis in our region, in her response to the U.S. Army's reduced retirement payments to 26 Alaska Native Elders who had served in the Territorial Guard during WWII, she argued:

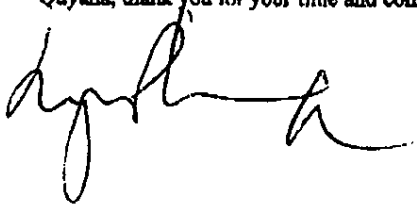
"Rural Alaskans face the highest food and energy costs in the nation, and these veterans need their retirement checks now more than ever," Governor Palin said. "Using the emergency fund to provide monetary protection for these 26 veterans is the right thing to do."

AVCP provides direct assistance to many families in our member villages that include a Housing Improvement Program, TANF and LIHEAP to name a few. Last year we assisted 1,846 households with energy assistance, and we anticipate the same number if not more appeals for the remainder of this season.

We tried to address this crisis proactively, in public statements and resolutions. We warned that the \$1,200 rebate would not adequately address the remote / rural fuel needs - and with the taxes due from as little as \$90 to over \$300 per person, we will continue to see pain in affected households this year. If we had access to affordable energy sources, all the factors we laid out for you would not have hurt us so badly this winter.

With families not having to worry about donated foods delivered from the state, it will go a long way to keeping our homes heated, and save our families from deciding between going cold or going hungry.

Quyana, thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Quyana", written in a cursive style.