

HB

168

Alaska State Legislature



HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

House Bill 168: DOT and RR Land Swap

House Bill 168 would authorize the Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) to exchange approximately ten acres of land with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF) to accommodate two DOTPF projects. The Parks Highway Improvement project in Wasilla and the Heavy Aircraft Cargo Apron project at the Fairbanks International Airport both require an adjustment to the Alaska Railroad's track and right-of-way lands. This legislation ensures that all the appropriate titles to property can be in place for both of these important DOTPF projects.

The Alaska Railroad Corporation Act, Alaska Statute 42.40.285, requires Legislative approval for the ARRC to "exchange, donate, sell or otherwise convey its entire interest in land".

Section 1: Parks Highway Improvement Project

Section 1 conveys approximately 6.3 acres of ARRC property adjacent to the Parks Highway to DOTPF. The widening and lane improvements to the Parks Highway required relocation of a portion of the Alaska Railroad mainline in the vicinity of Wasilla Lake. DOTPF acquired the necessary property south of the existing 200-foot Alaska Railroad right-of-way. The ARRC was able to relocate its tracks to this property just south of its original alignment. Once the railroad was relocated, DOTPF was able to complete construction of the improvements to the Parks Highway. The project is complete.

Section 2: Fairbanks International Airport Heavy Aircraft Cargo Apron

Section 2 would convey approximately 3.3 acres of ARRC property to DOTPF to accommodate construction of the new Heavy Aircraft Cargo Apron. Fairbanks International Airport is 43rd in the nation for the amount of landed weight, serves nearly a million passengers and has 17 airlines operating at the facility. Replacing the currently inadequate heavy aircraft cargo apron located next to the airport terminal is part of the planned construction upgrade and expansion of the Fairbanks International Airport. Of the four current aircraft parking positions, two interfere with the taxiway and create a potential safety risk. Expansion of the terminal will create additional interference with the third parking position. To eliminate a potential safety hazard and accommodate the airport expansion, the DOTPF is planning to construct a new heavy aircraft cargo apron on ARRC property adjacent to the airport. This proposed land exchange of approximately 3.3 acres will allow for the construction of a heavy aircraft cargo apron that will provide parking for four large cargo planes and be designed to handle the weight and size of the largest cargo planes. DOTPF must have a legally sufficient title interest to property in order to comply with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant assurances and funding participation requirements. Construction of this project will begin this summer.



SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau AK, 99801-1182
907-465-6828 (Senate)
907-465-3424 (House)

To: Senate Transportation Committee Members

From: Albert Kookesh, Chair, Senate Transportation Committee *AK*
465-6828

Date: March 19, 2007

RE: Draft Senate Transportation Committee Bill authorizing exchanges of land
between the Alaska Railroad Corporation and the Department of
Transportation

Attached is a draft Senate Transportation bill which would authorize the Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) to exchange approximately 10 acres of land with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to accommodate two DOTPF projects.

It has been introduced by the House Transportation Committee (HB 168) and a copy of the sponsor statement is attached. If you have no objections I would like to introduce this as a Senate Transportation bill. Please let my staff member, Nancy Barnes, know if you concur (465-6828). I would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible.

Alaska State Legislature



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25-LS0726A
Kane
3/6/07

SENATE BILL NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**Introduced:
Referred:**

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act authorizing two exchanges of land between the Alaska Railroad Corporation**
2 **and the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities; and providing for an**
3 **effective date."**

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

5 *** Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
6 to read:

7 APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE
8 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES. (a) Contingent
9 upon conveyance to the Alaska Railroad Corporation by the Department of Transportation
10 and Public Facilities of its entire interest in real property onto which the railroad utility
11 corridor may be or has been relocated, the Alaska Railroad Corporation is authorized to
12 convey the corporation's entire interest in approximately 6.3 acres, more or less, of railroad
13 utility corridor between railroad mileposts 158.8 and 159.6, within Sections 10 and 11,
14 Township 17 North, Range 1 West, Seward Meridian, to the Department of Transportation

1 and Public Facilities.

2 (b) The conveyance described in this section is made for the purpose of realignment
3 of the railroad to allow relocation of a portion of the Parks Highway in Wasilla by the
4 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to improve highway operations and
5 enhance safety.

6 (c) The land conveyed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to
7 the Alaska Railroad Corporation shall be held and managed by the corporation in accordance
8 with AS 42.40.

9 (d) This section constitutes legislative approval under AS 42.40.285(1) for the Alaska
10 Railroad Corporation to convey its entire interest in the land described in (a) of this section.

11 * **Sec. 2.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
12 read:

13 APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE
14 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES. (a) Contingent
15 upon conveyance to the Alaska Railroad Corporation by the Department of Transportation
16 and Public Facilities of its entire interest in real property onto which the railroad utility
17 corridor may be or has been relocated, the Alaska Railroad Corporation is authorized to
18 convey the corporation's entire interest in approximately 3.331 acres, more or less, of railroad
19 utility corridor between railroad mileposts H-9.3 and H-10, within Sections 23, 25, and 26,
20 Township 1 South, Range 2 West, Fairbanks Meridian, to the Department of Transportation
21 and Public Facilities.

22 (b) The conveyance described in this section is made for the purpose of realignment
23 of the railroad to allow construction of a heavy aircraft apron and other improvements at the
24 Fairbanks International Airport by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to
25 improve airport operations and efficiency.

26 (c) The land conveyed by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to
27 the Alaska Railroad Corporation shall be held and managed by the corporation in accordance
28 with AS 42.40.

29 (d) This section constitutes legislative approval under AS 42.40.285(1) for the Alaska
30 Railroad Corporation to convey its entire interest in the land described in (a) of this section.

31 * **Sec. 3.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).



SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

e-mail: Senator Albert M. Kookesh@legis.state.ak.us

State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau AK, 99801-1182
907-465-3732
888-461-3732
FAX 907-465-2652

To: Senate Secretary
From: Senator Albert M. Kookesh
Date: January 25, 2007
RE: Senate Transportation – week of January 29 – Feb 2, 2007

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

SB 15: Marine Pilots
SB: 49: Commemorative license plates
State Capitol, Room 205 (Butrovich Room)

Thursday, February 1

No Meeting Scheduled