

# HCR

# 24

<TARGET><BILL>HCR 24</BILL><SUBJECT>HCR  
24</SUBJECT><COMM>HCRA28</COMM></TARGET>

**HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT**

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: March 3, 2014

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/13/14

The COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HCR 24

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24**

Recognizing, honoring, supporting, and encouraging support for dog mushing and dog mushers in the state.

**HCR 24-SUPPORTING DOG MUSHING**

Recommends it be replaced with  HCS or  CS for \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_)   
 For Senate Bills with new title:  Technical Title  New Title: HCR \_\_\_\_\_  Same Title  New Title

- attach amendments
- add new referral to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee
- Letter of Intent \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

List of Abbrev for Deps.:  
 ADM  
 CED  
 COR  
 CRT  
 EED  
 DEC  
 DFG  
 GOV  
 DHS  
 LWF  
 LAW  
 LEG  
 MVA  
 DNR  
 DPS  
 REV  
 DOT  
 UA

<b>NEW FISCAL NOTES</b>				
*FN# is assigned by Chief Clerk's Office				
*FN#	List by Dept(s):	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero
	LAA			✓

<b>PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTES</b>				
FN#	List by Dept(s):	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero

<b>Signing with recommendations</b>	Printed Last Name	DP	DNP	NR	AM
	Kito Foster	✓			
Chair:	Nageek	X			
Chair:	Wagon	X			

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



Rep. Neal Foster  
Rep. Bob Herron  
Rep. Kurt Olson  
Rep. Lora Reinbold  
Rep. Sam Kito III



State Capitol, Barnes 124  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182  
Co-Chairs  
**Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux**  
(907) 465-4998 FAX 465-4419  
**Rep. Benjamin Nageak**  
(907) 465-3018 FAX 465-2827

## COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

TO: Representative Craig Johnson, Rules Chairman

FROM: Rep. Benjamin Nageak, C&RA Co-Chair   
Gabrielle LeDoux, C&RA Co-Chairs 

DATE: March 11, 2014

RE: HCR 24 SUPPORTING DOG MUSHING Floor Hearing Request

I respectfully request HCR 24 Supporting Dog Mushing be scheduled for the House Floor—at your earliest convenience. HCR 24 has moved out of the C&RA Committee this morning.

HCR 24 honors the sport of dog mushing and the athletes who participate. As the 1st musher crossed under Nome's burlled arch finish line today (March 11, 2014), we believe that this resolution is very timely to bring before the Legislature.

Staff contact for this legislation is Paul Labolle, who can be reached at 465-3789.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.



ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES, INC.  
2013 AFN CONVENTION  
RESOLUTION 13-33

- TITLE:** A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF SLED DOG MUSHING IN ALASKA AND TO AFFIRM ALASKA AS A "RIGHT TO MUSH" STATE AND TO PROTECT THE CUSTOMARY AND TRADITIONAL ACTIVITY OF SLED DOG MUSHING FOR THE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF ALASKANS
- WHEREAS:** The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is the largest statewide Native organization in Alaska and its membership includes 118 federally-recognized tribes, 133 village corporations, 13 regional corporations, and 11 regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums that contract and run federal and state programs; and
- WHEREAS:** The mission of AFN is to enhance and promote the cultural, economic, and political voice of the entire Alaska Native community; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) fully supports all of its members in all aspects of their self-determination, health and well-being, and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Alaska has an extensive system of accountability, approved by The federal government, for schools and school districts; and
- WHEREAS:** The State sport of Alaska is mushing; it is embraced by Native and non-Native persons alike, who continue to live with dogs, travel by dog team and perpetuate the culture and tradition of dog mushing that has been exercised for thousands of years in Alaska by Native Alaskans; and
- WHEREAS:** Alaska is historically home to sled dogs and dog mushers. It is an important thread in the fabric of Alaskan life, an important aspect of the spiritual wellbeing and cultural identity; and
- WHEREAS:** Sled Dog mushing is more than a sport, it is a way of life that has roots in ancient times when man first bonded with animals. This relationship helped Native Alaskans to live, hunt, thrive, and populate this state prior to the arrival of mechanized means of transportation; and
- WHEREAS:** Mushing is under attack in Alaska. Sled dog mushers around the state are experiencing harassment through frivolous lawsuits, the hampering of kennel operations, sled dog training runs and obstruction of trails; and

WHEREAS: Mushers all over the state are being bullied, intentionally disturbed and bothered by individuals who have no respect for the art of dog mushing, dog husbandry and the traditional Alaskan way of life; and

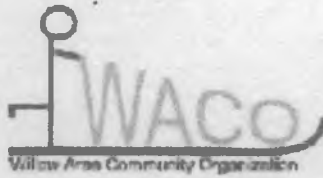
WHEREAS: Dog mushers contribute to the image of Alaska as the last frontier state; they contribute to state and local economies by providing popular tourist attractions; they contribute to the Alaskan sports scene by holding sled dog races that attract millions of fans worldwide and provide excitement and purpose locally; they contribute to the pride, spiritual and physical wellbeing and cultural identity of fans and mushers alike, whether be it through racing or recreationally mushing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Delegates of the 2013 Alaska Federation of Natives support the creation of the Code of the North, which establishes Alaska as a "Right to Mush" state. The Code of the North entails that people who chose to live in Alaska should embrace the fact that sled dog mushing is still alive and practiced. The Code of the North is based on the honor that sled dog mushing brings, and the grit and tenacity learned from mushing miles through open wild country in harsh weather conditions. Mushers –provided that they honorably maintain their kennel and humanely treat the dogs - need the support of Alaskans so that they are able to perpetuate the tradition and culture of sled dog keeping in Alaska for future generations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be the policy of AFN until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

SUBMITTED BY:	ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS
COMMITTEE ACTION:	DO PASS
CONVENTION ACTION:	PASS





Willow Area Community Organization  
P.O. Box 1027 - Willow - AK 99688  
907-495-6633  
www.waco-ak.org

November 13, 2013

Affirm Alaska as "Right to Mush" State Resolution:

**Title:** A resolution supporting the protection of sled dog mushing in Alaska and to affirm Alaska as a "Right to Mush" state and to protect the customary and traditional activity of sled dog mushing for the spiritual, mental and physical health of Alaskans.

**WHEREAS:** The State sport of Alaska is mushing. It is embraced by Native and non-Native persons alike, who continue to live with dogs, travel by dog team and perpetuate the culture and tradition of dog mushing that has been exercised for thousands of years in Alaska by Native Alaskans.

**WHEREAS:** Alaska is historically home to sled dogs and dog mushers. It is an important thread in the fabric of Alaskan life, an important aspect of the spiritual wellbeing and cultural identity.

**WHEREAS:** Sled Dog mushing is more than a sport. It is a way of life that has roots in ancient times when man first bonded with animals. This relationship helped Native Alaskans to live, hunt, thrive, and populate this state prior to the arrival of mechanized means of transportation.

**WHEREAS:** Mushing is under attack in Alaska. Sled dog mushers around the state are experiencing harassment through frivolous lawsuits, the hampering of kennel operations, sled dog training runs and obstruction of trails.

**WHEREAS:** Mushers all over the state are being bullied, intentionally disturbed and bothered by individuals who have no respect for the art of dog mushing, dog husbandry and the traditional Alaskan way of life.

**WHEREAS:** Dog mushers contribute to the image of Alaska as the last frontier state; they contribute to state and local economies by providing popular tourist attractions; they contribute to the Alaskan sports scene by holding sled dog races that attract millions of fans worldwide and provide excitement and purpose locally; they contribute to the pride, spiritual and physical wellbeing and cultural identity of fans and mushers alike, whether be it through racing or recreationally mushing.

Therefore be it resolved that: Willow Area Community Organization (WACO) support the creation of the Code of the North, which establishes Alaska as a "Right to Mush" state. The Code of the North entails that people who chose to live in Alaska should embrace the fact that sled dog mushing is still alive and practiced. The Code of the North is based on the honor that sled dog mushing brings, and the grit and tenacity learned from mushing miles through open wild country in harsh weather conditions. Mushers -- provided that they honorably maintain their kennel and humanely treat the dogs -- need the support of Alaskans so that they are able to perpetuate the tradition and culture of sled dog keeping in Alaska for future generations.

Sue Morgan, Secretary, Willow Area Community Organization



## **Resolution Affirming Alaska as “Right to Mush” State:**

**Title:** A resolution supporting sled dog mushing in Alaska and establishing the “Right to Mush” on the Seward Peninsula and in the state of Alaska and to protect the customary and traditional activity of sled dog mushing in the region and state as a traditional activity.

**WHEREAS:** The State sport of Alaska is sled dog mushing. It is embraced by many Alaskans who continue to live with dogs, travel by dog team and perpetuate the culture and tradition of sled dog mushing that has been exercised for thousands of years in Alaska.

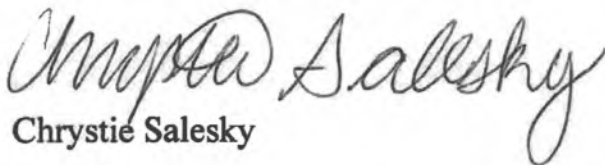
**WHEREAS:** The Seward Peninsula is the historic home to sled dog racing, started by the Nome Kennel Club in 1907, it is also an important thread in the fabric of Alaskan life, and an important aspect of the spiritual wellbeing and cultural identity of the people here.

**WHEREAS:** Dog mushing contributes to the image of Alaska as the Last Frontier state; it contributes to state and local economies by providing popular tourist attractions; dog mushing also makes possible sled dog races which attract millions of fans worldwide, providing exciting events, and show-casing Alaska on an international level.

**Therefore:** It is in the interest of preserving this sport and the way of life in rural Alaska that it represents that The Nome Kennel Club supports the “Right to Mush” on the Seward Peninsula and in the state of Alaska. This would include the establishment of traditionally used trails, guaranteeing the right to keep kennels, and legislative support through the recognition by the legislature of the importance of dog mushing to the identity of this region and the state in order to preserve this tradition and culture for future generations.

*Signed into effect the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2013 by the Nome Kennel Club*

**Nome Kennel Club President**

  
Chrystie Salesky

*Drafted September 2013 by Nils Hahn/Diana Haecker, nilsh@arctic.net/diana@arcticnet  
Edited November 2013 by The Nome Kennel Club Board*

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Bill Version HCR 24 (A)  
 Fiscal Note Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 ( ) Publish Date \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier (file name) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title Supporting Dog Mushing Appropriation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Allocation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor House Community & Regional Affairs Committee  
 Requester House Community & Regional Affairs Committee OMB Component Number \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

	FY15 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY15 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>FY15</b>	<b>FY15</b>	<b>FY16</b>	<b>FY17</b>	<b>FY18</b>	<b>FY19</b>	<b>FY20</b>
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
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>FUND SOURCE</b>		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF						
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)						
1007	I/A Rcpts (Other)						
1156	Rcpt Svcs (DGF)						
		<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>POSITIONS</b>							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES</b>							
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Estimated **SUPPLEMENTAL (FY14) operating costs** 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)  
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated **CAPITAL (FY15) costs** 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)  
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No  
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended, or repealed? \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss details in analysis section.

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)**

Not applicable, initial version

Prepared by Kimberly Clark, House C&RA Committee Aide  
 Division Legislative Affairs  
 Approved by Rep Gabrielle LeDoux & Rep Benjamin Nageak  
 Division House C&RA Co-Chairs

Phone (907) 465-3018  
 Date/Time 3/11/14 10:00 AM  
 Date 3/11/2013

**FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS**

**STATE OF ALASKA  
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**BILL NO.** HCR 24 (A)

**Analysis**

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**Affirm Alaska as “Right to Mush” State Resolution:**

**Title: A resolution supporting the protection of sled dog mushing and sled dog keeping in Alaska and to affirm Alaska as a “Right to Mush” state and to protect the customary and traditional activity of sled dog mushing for the spiritual, mental and physical health of Alaskans.**

***WHEREAS:*** The State sport of Alaska is mushing. It is embraced by Native and non-Native persons alike, who continue to live with dogs, travel by dog team and perpetuate the culture and tradition of dog mushing that has been exercised for thousands of years in Alaska.

***WHEREAS:*** Alaska is historically home to sled dogs and dog mushers. It is an important thread in the fabric of Alaskan life, an important aspect of the spiritual well-being and cultural identity.

***WHEREAS:*** Sled Dog mushing is more than a sport. It is a way of life that has roots in ancient times when man first bonded with animals. This relationship helped Alaskans to live, hunt, thrive, and populate this state prior to the arrival of mechanized means of transportation.

***WHEREAS:*** Mushing has been targeted by organizations such as PETA who wish elimination of the sport and its way of life. They have asked people not to patronize, not to participate in tours containing, or support companies that sponsor, sled dog racing.

***WHEREAS:*** Dog mushers contribute to the image of Alaska as the last frontier state; they contribute to state and local economies by providing popular tourist attractions; they contribute to the Alaskan sports scene by holding sled dog races that attract millions of fans worldwide and provide excitement and purpose locally; they contribute to the pride, spiritual and physical wellbeing and cultural identity of fans and mushers alike, whether be it through racing or recreationally mushing.

***Therefore be it resolved that:*** The Alaska State Legislature recognizes Alaska as a “Right to Mush” state and embraces the practice of sled dog mushing as a past, present, and future part of Alaska’s heritage.

***Be it further resolved*** The Alaska State Legislature honors the grit and tenacity of mushers who brave miles of open wild country in harsh weather conditions.

***Be it further resolved:*** The Alaska State Legislature realizes that Mushers -who honorably maintain their kennel and humanely treat the dogs - need the support of Alaskans so that they are able to perpetuate the tradition and culture of sled dog mushing in Alaska for future generations.

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LeDoux  
wants  
to take  
these  
out