

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997 - 1998 86/2

9711 SENATE RULES

MISSION STATEMENT

TO USE PROVEN UNITED
STATES MILITARY
METHODOLOGY AND
TECHNIQUES TO
MOTIVATE YOUNG MEN
AND WOMEN TO
BECOME SUCCESSFUL
CITIZENS

VISION STATEMENT

"TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT,
POSITIVE IMPACT UPON THE
FUTURE OF THE 'AT-RISK'
YOUTH OF ALASKA"

ChalleNGe Program

PRINCIPLES

- ◆ Provide tough, military-based discipline and standards which students are expected to emulate.
- ◆ Provide demanding physical and mental challenges to instill self-discipline and a strong work ethic.
- ◆ Provide a safe, secure, and structured environment.
- ◆ Provide problem solving skills to promote healthy choices throughout life.
- ◆ Provide staff models and mentors who display acceptable behavior and instill basic conservative American morals and values in the lives of students.
- ◆ Provide community service opportunities to help develop the personal value of service to others.

SJR

8

MEETING AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER: Senate Rules Committee on Thursday, February 13th, 1997 in Room 203 of the Capitol Building at 10:45am.

II. ROLL CALL:

Kelly.....Leman.....Taylor.....

Torgerson.....Duncan.....

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

1) SJR 9 by Senator Pearce - Endorsing ANWR Leasing

2) SJR 8 by Senator Torgerson - Primary Manufacturing of Publicly-Owned Timber

IV. MOTION:

Move to calendar SJR 9 and SJR 8 for Senate floor votes at the discretion of the chairman.

Alaska State Legislature



Committee Membership

Senate Finance
Senate Resources
Senate Rules
Legislative Budget & Audit

Senator John Torgerson

District Address:
145 Main St. Loop; Ste. 226
Kenai, AK 99611
(907) 283-2690
fax 283-9267

Session Address:
State Capitol; Room 514
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
(907) 465-2828
fax 465-4779

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SJR 8 - Primary Manufacturing of Publicly Owned Timber

This resolution urges Congress to provide the authority necessary for the State of Alaska to regulate, restrict or prohibit the export of unprocessed logs from State Lands, Municipal Lands, and the University of Alaska Lands.

In 1984, the Supreme Court ruled that Alaska's Primary Manufacture laws were in conflict with the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution, where the requirement of in-state manufacture placed an unauthorized restriction of the free trade between states.

In 1990, Congress adopted the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act, which in part authorized eleven Western States an exemption to the Commerce Clause. The exemption has led these States to restrict the purchase of timber to only entities that are in operation within their borders.

Alaska was not included in this legislation; therefore, authorizing other states to come to Alaska and purchase our raw materials and "export" them from Alaska to their own state; however, Alaska's manufacturers are restricted from going to any of the other states in search of raw timber to run our facilities.

When authorized by Congress, primary manufacturing of our timber resources will create value added jobs within the State. We will be using our raw materials to provide jobs for Alaskans.

This resolution is the same as SJR 37, which was passed late in the 19th Legislative Session. I believe there is good reason to reinforce the Legislature's position on the issue and again submitting the resolution to the persons named in the body of the resolution.

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SJR8
 (S) Publish Date: 2-11-97

Revision Date 1/23/97 Dept. Affected _____
 Title Primary manufacture of publicly owned timber BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Torgerson _____
 Requester _____ Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

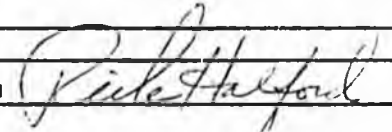
Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution has no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
 Division _____
 Approved by Senator Rick Halford, Chairman 
 Agency _____

Phone 465-4907
 Date _____
 Date 2/4/97

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SJR 37(1)

Urging the United States Congress to give an affirmative expression of approval to a policy authorizing the state to regulate, restrict, or prohibit the export of unprocessed logs harvested from its land and from the land of its political subdivisions and the University of Alaska.

Sponsor(s): SENATOR(S) TORGERSON; REPRESENTATIVE(S) Navarre, Green, Ogan
G. Davis, James

Current Status: LEGIS RESOLVE 52 Status Date: 5/29/96

Jrn-Date	Jrn-Pg	Action
2/12/96	2381	(S) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRAL(S)
2/12/96	2382	(S) RESOURCES
3/08/96		(S) RES AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH ROOM 205
3/08/96		(S) MINUTE(RES)
3/11/96		(S) RES AT 3:30 PM BUTROVICH ROOM 205
3/11/96		(S) MINUTE(RES)
3/12/96	2705	(S) RES RPT 6DP
3/12/96	2705	(S) ZERO FISCAL NOTE (S.RES)
3/13/96		(S) RLS AT 11:00 AM FAHRENKAMP RM 203
3/13/96		(S) MINUTE(RLS)
3/25/96	2865	(S) RULES RPT 2CAL INR 10THER 3/25/96
3/25/96	2883	(S) READ THE SECOND TIME
3/25/96	2883	(S) ADVANCED TO THIRD READING UNAN CONSENT
3/25/96	2883	(S) READ THE THIRD TIME SJR 37
3/25/96	2883	(S) PASSED Y20 N-
3/25/96	2886	(S) TRANSMITTED TO (H)
3/26/96	3360	(H) READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRAL(S)
3/26/96	3360	(H) RESOURCES
3/26/96	3381	(H) CROSS Sponsor(s): NAVARRE
4/17/96		(H) RES AT 8:00 AM CAPITOL 124
4/17/96		(H) MINUTE(RES)
4/17/96	3812	(H) RES RPT 5DP INR
4/17/96	3812	(H) DP: DAVIES, WILLIAMS, GREEN, AUSTERMAN
4/17/96	3812	(H) DP: KOTT
4/17/96	3812	(H) NR: NICHOLIA
4/17/96	3812	(H) SENATE ZERO FISCAL NOTE (S.RES) 3/12/96
4/26/96	4067	(H) RULES TO CALENDAR 4/26/96
4/26/96	4067	(H) READ THE SECOND TIME
4/26/96	4067	(H) ADVANCED TO THIRD READING UNAN CONSENT
4/26/96	4067	(H) READ THE THIRD TIME SJR 37
4/26/96	4067	(H) PASSED Y33 E6 A1
4/26/96	4067	(H) RETURN TO (S), TRANSMIT TO GOVERNOR NEXT
4/26/96	4076	(H) CROSS Sponsor(s): GREEN, OGAN, G.DAVIS,
4/26/96	4076	(H) JAMES
8/30/96	4338	(S) 3:20 PM 5/9/96 TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR
8/30/96	4371	(S) FILED PERMANENTLY 5/29 LEGIS RESOLVE 52

SJR

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Alaska State Legislature

Sen. Tim Kelly, Chairman
Anchorage
Sen. Loren Leman, Vice-Chair
Anchorage
Sen. Robin Taylor
Wrangell
Sen. John Torgerson
Kasilof
Sen. Jim Duncan
Juneau



Official Business

Senate Rules Committee

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Fax: (907) 258-4524

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 12, 1997

TO: Senators Leman, Taylor, Torgerson, and Duncan
Members, Senate Rules Committee

FROM: Senator Tim Kelly, Chairman
Senate Rules Committee TDK (TB)

SUBJ: Committee Meeting - February 13th

There will be a Senate Rules Committee meeting tomorrow, Thursday, February 13th in the Farhenkamp Room at 10:45am. We will meet to calendar the following:

SJR 9 - Endorsing ANWR Leasing - Senator Pearce

SJR 8 - Primary Mfg. Publicly-Owned Timber - Senator
Torgerson

If there are any questions, contact Tim Benintendi at 3770.

TDK/lb/m12

3:00 PM - HANZ CARRIED TO:

ANNETTE
MARY J.
NANCY Q.

JOE A.
DEBBIE G.
BENJAMIN

(CALLED LORENE)

MEETING AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER: Senate Rules Committee on Thursday, February 13th, 1997 in Room 203 of the Capitol Building at 10:45am.

II. ROLL CALL:

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Torgerson.....Duncan.....

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

1) SJR 9 by Senator Pearce - Endorsing ANWR Leasing

2) SJR 8 by Senator Torgerson - Primary Manufacturing of Publicly-Owned Timber

IV. MOTION:

Move to calendar SJR 9 and SJR 8 for Senate floor votes at the discretion of the chairman.

Alaska State Legislature



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Fax (907) 258-0226

During Session: (Jan - May)
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
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Fax (907) 465-3872

Drue Pearce

Sponsor Statement For SJR 9

SJR 9 encourages the United States Congress to pass legislation for oil and gas exploration, development, and production on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

SJR 9 urges the United States Congress to pass legislation allowing access to the estimated 10,000,000,000 barrels of recoverable oil on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). This resolution is supported by the local residents of the coastal plain of the North Slope Borough and by a majority of Alaskans.

Development of the oil and gas resources in ANWR will help to offset declining oil revenues in Alaska and decreasing energy production nationwide. Considering that demand for crude oil rose in the United States by 2.5 percent in the past year, and that domestic production of oil continues to decline while import prices increase, the successful development of the resources in this region is of the utmost importance to all Americans.

Furthermore, the authors of this resolution express their resolve to conduct all oil and gas activities to the benefit of the state's work force and in a manner sensitive to the environment of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Copies of this resolution will be sent to the Honorable President of the United States, Vice-President, Secretary of the Interior, and all current members of Congress.

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SJR 9

(S) Publish Date: 2-11-97

Revision Date <u>1/29/97</u>	Dept. Affected _____
Title <u>Endorsing ANWR leasing</u>	BRU _____
Sponsor <u>Pearce</u>	Component _____
Requester <u>Senate Resources Committee</u>	Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

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1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*
This resolution has no fiscal impact on state agencies

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
Division _____
Approved by Senator Rick Halford, Chairman
Agency _____

Phone 465-4907
Date _____
Date 2/10/97

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ARCTIC OIL RESERVE
JOBS AND ENERGY
FOR AMERICA

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February 6, 1997

Senator Drue Pearce
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Pearce,

Thank you for introducing Senate Joint Resolution 9 supporting oil and gas development on the Coastal Plain of ANWR. Arctic Power strongly supports this legislation and its speedy passage.

As you know, Since 1992 Arctic Power has been coordinating Alaska's efforts to gain congressional and presidential approval to open the Coastal Plain area of ANWR to oil and gas development. We work closely with Alaska's Congressional Delegation, the Governor's Office, the Alaska Legislature, business community and our individual membership base to maintain a positive debate on the issue. The passage of SJR 9 will reaffirm that Alaska's Legislature strongly supports Coastal Plain development.

The arguments supporting development in Coastal Plain have only strengthened over time. Today, the U.S. is more dependent on foreign oil - exceeding 52%, demand is up and our domestic production is continuing to fall. A recent Government Accounting Office report estimated that our imports of foreign oil could rise to over 80% by the year 2015. ANWR, considered the highest potential for discovery of a very large oil and gas field on the continent of North America by the U.S. Department of Interior, could change that decline in domestic production and lessen our reliance on foreign oil.

Alaska's Arctic development is conducted under the strictest environmental regulations and review in the world, emphasizing great care for the animals, people and physical environment. Alaska's North Slope operators have demonstrated the ability to safely produce oil and gas in the region utilizing the best in Arctic technology developed right here in Alaska.

Arctic Power appreciates the Legislature's continued help in working to open ANWR for development. Thanks again for introducing SJR 9 and assisting in its movement towards passage.

Best Regards,

Cam W. Toohy
Cam Toohy,
Executive Director



A CASE FOR OIL DEVELOPMENT IN ALASKA

ARCTIC OIL RESERVE JOBS AND ENERGY FOR AMERICA

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- * The U.S. imports over 50% of the nation's needed petroleum. These oil imports cost more than \$55.1 billion a year. These figures are rising and could exceed 67% imports by the year 2000.
- * Beneath a 1.5 million acre tract on the North Slope of Alaska is estimated to be between 3 and 9 billion barrels of recoverable oil. This area is a specially designated area within the 19 million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Known as the "Coastal Plain", this area was designated by Congress in 1981 as requiring special study to determine its oil and gas potential and the effects of development on the environment. In 1987, the Department of Interior recommended development. Congressional authorization is required for the Coastal Plain to be open.
- * Prudhoe Bay, located 60 miles to the west of ANWR, has been operating for nearly 20 years and has produced in excess of 10 billion barrels of oil during that time. It is among the most environmentally sensitive oil operations in the world. Present output at Prudhoe Bay has declined to 1.4 million barrels per day, and is continuing to decline.
- * The Coastal Plain of ANWR is America's best bet for the discovery of another giant "Prudhoe Bay-sized" oil and gas field in North America. Many economic benefits would result:
 - The Coastal Plain could produce up to 1.5 million barrels per day for at least 25 years - nearly 25% of current daily U.S. production.
 - The U.S. would save \$14 billion per year in oil imports.
 - Between 250,000 and 735,000 jobs are estimated to be created by development of the Coastal Plain.
 - Federal revenues would be enhanced by billions of dollars from bonus bids, lease rentals, royalties, and taxes.
- * Advancing technology has greatly reduced the "footprint" of Arctic oil development. If Prudhoe Bay were built today, the footprint would be 1,526 acres, 64% smaller.
- * Oil and gas development and wildlife are successfully coexisting in Alaska's Arctic. For example, the Central Arctic caribou herd at Prudhoe Bay has grown from 3,000 to as high as 23,400 during the last 20 years.
- * More than 75% of Alaskans favor exploration and production in ANWR.
- * The Inupiat Eskimos who live in and near ANWR support onshore oil development on the Coastal Plain.



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**"WHAT DEVELOPMENT OF ALASKA'S ARCTIC COASTAL
PLAIN MEANS TO ALASKA"**

Jobs

Jobs that could be created from Coastal Plain
development in Alaska: **38,300 jobs**

examples: direct employment in oil exploration and production
service, supplies and transportation sectors
computer, environmental and local government employment

Number of direct petroleum industry jobs in Alaska: **12,893 jobs**

Economic Impact

Dollars spent in Alaska from Prudhoe Bay
development since 1980: **\$ 4.9 billion**
(excludes payments to State of Alaska)

Alaska vendors doing business in AK oil fields: **over 1,500**

Alaska energy expenditures per capita ranks well over the national average!

Petroleum Statistics

Daily consumption of motor gasoline in Alaska: **750,000 gallons**

Daily consumption of petroleum products in Alaska: **4.4 million gallons**

Daily production of oil products in Alaska:
(25% of current U.S. domestic production) **61.6 million gallons**

Alaska's reliance on imported foreign oil **0 %**



"WHAT DEVELOPMENT OF ALASKA'S ARCTIC COASTAL PLAIN MEANS TO THE NATION"

ARCTIC OIL RESERVE JOBS AND ENERGY FOR AMERICA

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Fax (202) 544-5763

Jobs

Jobs that could be created from Coastal Plain development nationally:	735,000 jobs
Direct petroleum industry jobs nationwide:	1.5 million jobs

Economic Impact

Since discovering oil on Alaska's North Slope, spending on exploration and development nationwide is over:	\$50.0 billion
Nationwide vendors doing business in AK oil fields since 1990:	over 10,000
To buy foreign oil in 1995 America spent:	\$55.1 billion

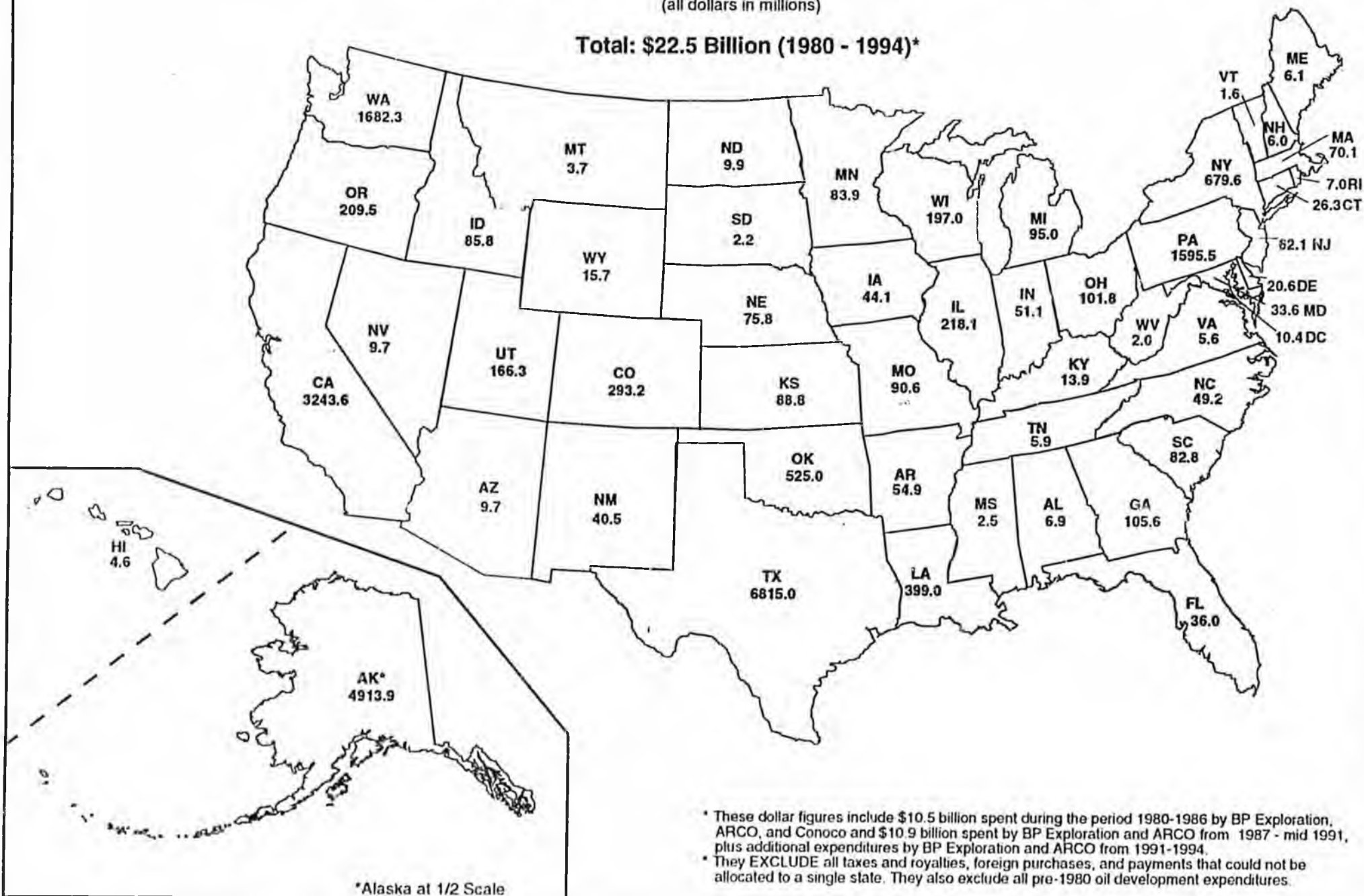
Petroleum Statistics

Today U.S. imports of foreign oil exceeds:	52%
Current U.S. imports of oil per day:	9 million barrels

Dollars Spent in Each State for North Slope Oil Development

(all dollars in millions)

Total: \$22.5 Billion (1980 - 1994)*



* These dollar figures include \$10.5 billion spent during the period 1980-1986 by BP Exploration, ARCO, and Conoco and \$10.9 billion spent by BP Exploration and ARCO from 1987 - mid 1991, plus additional expenditures by BP Exploration and ARCO from 1991-1994.
 * They EXCLUDE all taxes and royalties, foreign purchases, and payments that could not be allocated to a single state. They also exclude all pre-1980 oil development expenditures.

735,000 Potential New Jobs if ANWR is Opened to Oil & Gas Leasing

All Numbers Are in Thousands of Jobs



*Alaska at 1/2 Scale

Potential jobs created by ANWR activity as forecasted by WEFA (1991)

DRUCE P. VENIO
1TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
RESOURCES

3364 BAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20513-2704
(202) 225-6931

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
BANKING AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES

DISTRICT OFFICE:
SALTER PLAZA
175 FORTH ST. S.
RM. 727, BOX 100
ST. PAUL, MN 55101
(612) 224-4502

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2704

February 3, 1997

PROTECT AMERICA'S GREAT WILDERNESS
COSPONSOR THE MORRIS K. UDALL WILDERNESS ACT

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to seek your support and cosponsorship of the Morris K. Udall Wilderness Act of 1997. This legislation will provide permanent protection of the 1.5 million acres of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) coastal plain.

The Arctic Refuge coastal plain is a unique ecosystem, essential to the life of over 200 species of wildlife. As the tundra thaws each spring, the coastal plain comes alive with an extraordinary variety of flora and fauna. The wetland grasses, flowers and other plant life feed over 200 species of wildlife, including muskoxen, moose, wolves, arctic foxes, grizzly and polar bears.

The coastal plain is best known as the home of the 160,000 member Porcupine Caribou herd. The last of the free roaming herd in North America and one of the largest caribou herds in the world, the Porcupine herd migrates to the coastal plain for calving and post-calving each year. This landscape is 20th century window to the ice age, referred to as the North American Serengeti.

Currently oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is prohibited. That important prohibition inserted by Congressman Morris Udall is now under attack from a host of special interests seeking instant gratification at the expense of our children's natural legacy.

If active oil exploration and development are allowed, the special values of the fragile coastal plain will be lost forever. Any development would destroy this spectacular wilderness and jeopardize the survival of the caribou and other species.

Even if this refuge is opened to development, the amount of recoverable oil in the Arctic Refuge is questionable. A 1987 Department of Interior report optimistically forecast a one in five chance that the Arctic Refuge would yield economically recoverable amounts of oil. Other recent forecasts have significantly reduced the chances of oil recovery.

What is not questionable is the impact of opening the refuge. Active exploration and development, including gravel and ice road construction, spills and other disruptive activities, will guarantee ecological devastation.

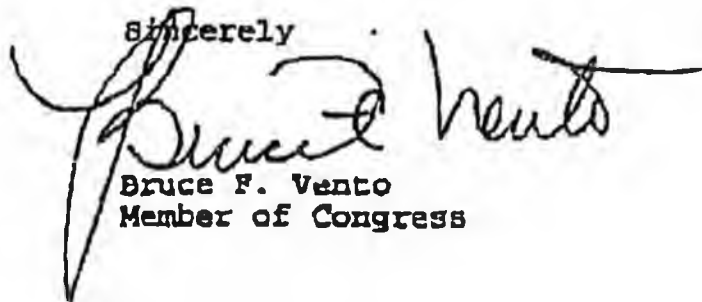
If Congress and the Federal Government turn their backs on the unique ANWR ecosystem and spoil this unique wilderness landscape, we will not be able reverse the degradation. GENERATIONS TO COME WILL HAVE TO LIVE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF THAT DESTRUCTIVE POLICY PATH FOREVER.

This Morris Udall Wilderness designation legislation is supported by the Alaska Coalition, an impressive environmental/conservation group dedicated to protecting Alaska's wild lands. The Coalition includes the Wildlife Society, the Sierra Club, the National Audubon Society, the Alaska Wilderness League, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Defenders of Wildlife and the Alaska Center for the Environment.

Your cosponsorship of the Morris K. Udall Wilderness Act would be a strong action and demonstrate support for protecting this unique resource today and for future generations.

If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact me or Terry Klein of my staff at X56631.

Sincerely



Bruce F. Vento
Member of Congress



ARCTIC OIL RESERVE
JOB AND ENERGY
FOR AMERICA

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ARCTIC POWER

Arctic Power is a grassroots, non-profit organization of Alaska citizens organized to promote oil exploration and production within the Coastal Plain of ANWR.

Arctic Power has secured more than 10,000 members since its inception in mid-1992 and is enrolling new members daily.

Arctic Power membership spans the economic spectrum - including miners, fishermen, loggers, tourism operators, transportation businesses, labor unions, banks, teachers, the legal community, retail firms, service industries, non-profit organizations, Alaska Native corporations, local elected officials, and many others. Interest groups represented on the Arctic Power board and through its membership are The Alaska Support Industry Alliance, the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, the Resource Development Council, the Alaska Trucking Association, the Alaska Oil & Gas Association, the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, the Alaska Miner's Association, and the Alaska Forest Association.

A statewide board oversees the activities of Arctic Power and includes representatives from Barrow to Ketchikan - all regions of the state are represented. The board of Arctic Power includes businesses from a variety of industry sectors, including but not limited to, law firms, trucking businesses, the visitor industry, media firms, Native corporations, oilfield service companies and public relations agencies.

The Alaska congressional delegation has endorsed Arctic Power and works closely with the board and staff of the organization. Arctic Power and the state of Alaska work together in their congressional outreach efforts in Washington, D.C.

The organization is committed to securing congressional and presidential approval of legislation opening the Coastal Plain of ANWR to responsible oil development.

SJR

12



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATOR RANDY PHILLIPS
SENATE DISTRICT L

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Fax: 465-4979

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Eagle River AK 99577
(907) 694-4949
Fax: 694-4948

Memorandum

TO: Senator Jerry Ward, Chair
Senate Transportation Committee

FROM: Senator Randy Phillips *REP*

DATE: February 17, 1997

RE: Senate Joint Resolution No. 12
Relating to reconstruction and paving of the Alaska Highway

I support the passage of Senate Joint Resolution No. 12 which requests the United States Congress to appropriate \$94 million to complete the Shakwak project, the reconstruction of the primary surface link between Southeast Alaska and the rest of the state.

In 1977 the United States and Canada entered into an agreement to reconstruct the Haines Highway and that portion of the Alaska Highway between Haines Junction and the Alaska-Yukon border near Beaver Creek. The agreement calls for the United States to provide the funding and for Canada to provide the rights of way and administer the construction contracts. Canada has guaranteed access to U.S. citizens and guaranteed that the highway will remain toll free.

The Shakwak project includes 325 miles of highway, of which 221 miles have either been completed or funded. It is currently estimated that \$94 million additional will be needed to complete the remaining 104 miles of highway. Congress is currently considering reauthorization of highway funding and it is important that this project be brought to their attention.

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1

Bill Version: STR 12

BILL NO. (S) Publish Date: 2/21/97

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date _____ Dept. Affected _____
 Title Construction of Alaska Highway BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Senate Transportation Committee
 Requester Senate Transportation Committee Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
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Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

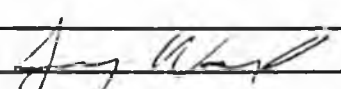
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)
 This resolution has no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Transportation Committee
 Division _____
 Approved by Senator Jerry Ward, Chairman 
 Agency _____

Phone 465-4940
 Date _____
 Date 2-12-97

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SJR

13



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

Senate

**RICK
HALFORD**

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-4958

P.O. Box 670190
Chugiak, Alaska 99567
Phone (907) 694-4958

600 E. Railroad Avenue
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
Phone (907) 376-4958

Senate Joint Resolution 13 Sponsor Statement

" Opposing the Department of the Interior's R.S. 2477 policy "

Revised Statute 2477 was a right granted to the states by the United States Congress with the passage of the Mining Act of 1866. The purpose of this law was to provide for, and guarantee, the public's right to establish access across federal lands. Subsequent congressional action, and more than 100 years of case law, has recognized the state's authority to determine and define R.S. 2477 rights-of-way.

Although Congress repealed R.S. 2477 in 1976 with the adoption of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, they specifically acknowledged the legal existence of R.S. 2477 rights-of-way established prior to the repeal. Current Federal Regulation explicitly provides that any rights conferred by the R.S. 2477 grant shall not be diminished. (43 CFR § 2801.4)

Disregarding the published federal regulations of his own Department, and the clear congressional prohibition to regulatory change, on January 22, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt issued an interim departmental policy on R.S. 2477. This "new policy" contains many of the bureaucratic roadblocks and "newly created" definitions present in the Department's 1994 proposed regulations that Congress specifically prohibited.

R.S. 2477 rights-of-way are crucial to the future of our young and still largely undeveloped state. R.S. 2477 rights-of-way are essential to provide surface travel to Alaska's many untapped mineral deposits and other natural resources, recreational areas and tourism opportunities, and access to and between Alaska's rural areas.

R.S. 2477 rights-of-way are an existing state right that we cannot allow to be "regulated away" by the Secretary of the Interior. Passage of SJR 13 provides the Alaska Legislature an opportunity to express our staunch support of this important state right and our strong opposition to what appears to be a continuing "War on the West" waged by Secretary Babbitt and the Clinton Administration.

- **State's Rights Posturing:** The Alaska Legislature's posturing on this issue, with its overtones and undercurrents of Sagebrush Rebellion and Wise Use rhetoric, is clearly another example of state's rights sword-rattling. By embracing the Utah county approach of "exert your 'rights' first, get asked questions later," the Legislature is promoting an approach that is the antithesis of reasoned statesmanship.

The Alaska Environmental Lobby urges the promoters of SJR 13 to call off their declaration of war on thousands of their fellow Alaskans. State-Federal discourse and negotiation is needed, not a quick-fix scheme costing the State and landowners staggering sums of money and time. Should this misguided resolution pass, AEL urges the Governor to ignore it in favor of calm and rationale discussions with the Department of Interior on how Title XI can be implemented in the best interests of Alaska and the nation.

Susan E. Schrader, Executive Director
2/17/97



Alaska Environmental Lobby, Inc.

P.O. Box 22151 Juneau, Alaska 99802

Phone: 907-463-3366

Fax: 907-463-3312

Twentieth Legislature ~ First Session

SJR 13: Relating to RS 2477 Rights-of-Way

This Resolution and Secretary of Interior Babbitt's newly-stated policy for administering RS 2477 claims continue to fuel the controversy over this 120 year old statute. The Alaska Environmental Lobby, representing 22 environmental organizations with a combined membership of over 10,000 Alaskans, strongly opposes SJR 13 for the following reasons:

- **No panacea:** RS 2477 right-of-ways (ROW'S) are no panacea for the perceived inadequacy of the state's road system. Supporters of SJR 13 are misleading the public when they claim that these ROW's are the answer to public access across the federal lands. The routes of primitive trails and dirt roads alleged to be RS 2477 ROW's are inadequate for modern highway alignments even if the courts were ultimately to determine that these ROW's can be used for modern highways - a determination that is by no means assured.
 - **War on Alaskans:** An attempt to secure RS 2477 routes by the State will engender intense controversy and impose staggering litigation costs on private property owners, homesteaders, Allotment owners, mining claim owners, and Native landowners who will need to defend their private property rights against the State's ROW claim that they likely had no idea existed. If SJR 13 is adopted and the Knowles Administration follows through on its instructions, Alaska will go to war with thousands of its own citizens.
 - **A Major Threat to Conservation and Subsistence Interests of Alaskans:** State acquisition of these ROW's through national conservation system units and across millions of acres of Native and other private lands will lead to a multitude of undesirable impacts, such as: destruction of fish and wildlife habitat, disturbance of wildlife and other quiet users, increased hunting pressure in competition with rural residents, poaching, and off-road vehicle (ORV) trespass.
 - **Other less contentious options exist:** The state has other avenues it can pursue to obtain right-of-way across much of the federal land in Alaska, such as ANILCA's Title XI provisions for establishing transportation corridors. These alternative approaches for the state to establish ROW's are far less contentious that asserting RS 2477 claims and provide the opportunity to obtain the necessary alignments needed for construction of a modern road or highway.
- (OVER)



- **State's Rights Posturing:** The Alaska Legislature's posturing on this issue, with its overtones and undercurrents of Sagebrush Rebellion and Wise Use rhetoric, is clearly another example of state's rights sword-rattling. By embracing the Utah county approach of "exert your 'rights' first, get asked questions later," the Legislature is promoting an approach that is the antithesis of reasoned statesmanship.

The Alaska Environmental Lobby urges the promoters of SJR 13 to call off their declaration of war on thousands of their fellow Alaskans. State-Federal discourse and negotiation is needed, not a quick-fix scheme costing the State and landowners staggering sums of money and time. Should this misguided resolution pass, AEL urges the Governor to ignore it in favor of calm and rationale discussions with the Department of Interior on how Title XI can be implemented in the best interests of Alaska and the nation.

Susan E. Schrader, Executive Director
2/17/97

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1
 Bill Version: SJR 13
 (S) Publish Date: 2/27/97

STATE OF ALASKA
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date 2/5/97 Dept. Affected _____
 Title Oppose DOI policy on RS 2477 BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Halford _____
 Requester _____ Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

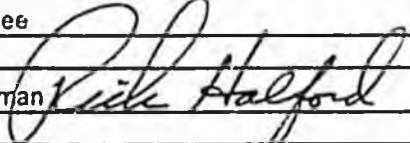
Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution will have no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
 Division _____
 Approved by Senator Rick Halford, Chairman 
 Agency _____

Phone 465-4907
 Date _____
 Date 2/21/97

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SJR

15



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Sponsor Statement SJR 15

"Relating to reauthorization of the Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Act of 1991"

SJR 15 calls upon the Federal Government to reauthorize the Intermodal Surface Transportation Act of 1991, known as ISTEA. This is a federal transportation program which shares federal gasoline tax revenues with the states. It is due to expire on September 30, 1997.

Since 1991 Alaska has received over one billion dollars in federal funds to build transportation facilities including highways, ferries and airports. Federal ISTEA funds represent approximately one third of the state total transportation budget. The purpose of the act was to link the nation with a viable transportation system.

SJR 15 calls for the Federal Government to renew the program and give states more flexibility to use the funds to fill their individual needs.

Reauthorization of ISTEA may be the most important legislation, relating to states, to come before Congress in years. Unanimous support of the reauthorization of ISTEA will send a strong message to Washington and our congressional delegation.

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

March 18, 1997

10:50 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Tim Kelly, Chairman
Senator Loren Leman, Vice Chairman
Senator Robin Taylor

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator John Torgerson
Senator Jim Duncan

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

Relating to reauthorization of the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

PREVIOUS SENATE COMMITTEE ACTION

SJR 15 - Finance report 3/13/97.

ACTION NARRATIVE

TAPE 97-3, SIDE A
#SJR 15

CHAIRMAN KELLY called the Senate Rules Committee meeting to order at 10:50 a.m., and noted the presence of Senators Leman, Taylor and Kelly.

CHAIRMAN KELLY brought **SJR 15 (REAUTHORIZATION OF ISTEPA)** before the committee as the only order of business. Hearing no discussion, he asked for the pleasure of the committee.

SENATOR LEMAN moved and asked unanimous consent **SJR 15** be approved for calendaring at the discretion of the Chair. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered.

There being no further business to come before the committee, **CHAIRMAN KELLY** adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
E Bill Version: SSJR 15 (FIN)
(S) Publish Date: 3-13-97

Revision Date: 13-Mar-97
Title: Reauthorization of ISTE A
Sponsor: Senate Transportation Committee
Requestor: Senate Finance Committee

Dept. Affected: _____
BRU: _____
Components: _____
Serial #: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY03
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

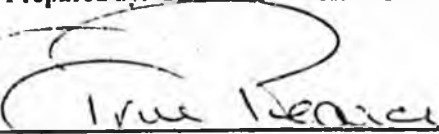
General Fund						
Federal Fund						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)
see attached analysis

Prepared by: SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE


SENATOR DRUE PEARCE, COCHAIR

Date: 3-13-97
Phone: 465-4993


SENATOR BERT SHARP, COCHAIR

Date: 3-13-97
Phone: 465-3004

SJR

16



SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Northwest Anchorage

716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 258-8189 Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 465-2095

MEMO

TO: Senator Tim Kelly, Chairman
Senate Rules Committee

FROM: Senator Loren Leman *Loren*

DATE: March 11, 1997

RE: Scheduling SJR 16 for Rules Committee

Please schedule at your earliest convenience CS SJR 16 (RES) for calendaring by the Rules Committee. SJR 16 encourages Congress to re-authorize and reform the federal Endangered Species Act.

A sponsor statement is attached.



SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Northwest Anchorage

716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 258-8189 Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 465-2095

Sponsor Statement SJR 16

"Relating to Re-authorization and Reform of the Endangered Species Act."

Senate Joint Resolution 16 supports the efforts of our Congressional delegation, and other states, in reforming the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The ESA was passed by Congress in 1973 and has been amended several times. The basic premise of the ESA is to prevent the extinction of species.

It is unfortunate that examples of governmental abuse of power can be found alongside the successes of the ESA. SJR 16 recommends that the re-authorized Act assure partnership with the states and protection of private property rights.

SJR 16 requests the re-authorized Act not include: 1) any expansion of federal authority; 2) implementation of the complicated Biodiversity Treaty; or 3) any new biological diversity reserve system.

Alaska has more to lose in this debate than most states because of our resource-based economy. Examples of the ESA invoked to halt economic activity include a lawsuit filed by Greenpeace to shut down the eastern Gulf of Alaska pollock fishery, and proposals by the U.S. Forest Service to list the Alexander Archipelago Wolf and the Queen Charlotte Goshawk as threatened.

FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

No. 1
 Bill Version: SJR16
 (S) Publish Date: 3/11/97

Revision Date 2/18/97 Dept. Affected _____
 Title Reform the Endangered Species Act BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Leman Component Serial No. _____
 Requester _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

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

This resolution has no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
 Division _____
 Approved by Senator Rick Halford, Chairman
 Agency _____

Phone 465-4907
 Date _____
 Date 3/4/97

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TO: GEORGE U.

6660

STR 16

AMENDMENT

Page 2, line 21, replace paragraph (5) with new paragraphs and (6) and renumber following paragraphs accordingly.

(5) require establishment of biologically sound delisting criteria and recovery plan population objectives and require mandatory delisting once recovery plan population objectives have been met;

(6) clarify the definition of "species" to limit the listing of "distinct population segments" to major segments and evolutionarily significant segments of a species range;

PLEASE CHANGE VERSION

LS0609/E TO

PROVIDE FOR THE ABOVE.

THANKS

Tim B.

3770

AMENDMENT

Page 2, line 21, replace paragraph (5) with new paragraphs and (6) and renumber following paragraphs accordingly.

(5) require establishment of biologically sound delisting criteria and recovery plan population objectives and require mandatory delisting once recovery plan population objectives have been met;

(6) clarify the definition of "species" to limit the listing of "distinct population segments" to major segments and evolutionarily significant segments of a species range;

SJR

20

by LEMAN

AMENDMENT TO CSSJR20(RES)

PAGE 2, LINES 22-23

permitting process for all lands in Alaska that does not include burdensome mitigation, avoidance, and other requirements; [FOR ALL LANDS IN ALASKA] and be it



SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Northwest Anchorage

716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 258-8189 Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 465-2095

MEMO

TO: Senator Tim Kelly, Chairman
Senate Rules Committee

FROM: Senator Loren Leman *Loren Leman*

DATE: March 11, 1997

RE: Scheduling SJR 20 for Rules Committee

Please schedule at your earliest convenience CS SJR 20 (RES) for calendaring by the Rules Committee. SJR 20 encourages Congress to amend the federal Clean Water Act.

A sponsor statement and back up are attached.



SENATOR LOREN LEMAN

Northwest Anchorage

716 W 4th Ave, Suite 520, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 258-8189 Session: State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99801 (907) 465-2095

SPONSOR STATEMENT SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

SJR 20 encourages Congress to amend the federal Clean Water Act to:

- a) continue existing activities related to airport safety, logging, mining, ice pads, roads, and snow removal without being determined to add to the "cumulative" loss of wetlands nationally;
- b) provide flexibility in Alaska wetlands permitting by allowing the establishment of general permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material into disposal sites;
- c) eliminate existing requirements to mitigate unavoidable impacts or to prove alternative sites do not exist;
- d) require the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to customize a permitting process for lands conveyed under the Alaska Statehood Act and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act that does not include burdensome mitigation or avoidance requirements.

SJR 20 endorses the efforts of Senators Stevens and Murkowski to amend the Clean Water Act to modify the wetlands regulatory program through S. 49.

Despite the fact that Alaska has, since the 1700s maintained 99.5% of its wetlands - environmentalists have testified before this legislature and written in the National Wetlands Newsletter that Alaska is attempting to undermine the Clean Water Act in the name of development and oil and gas exploration. They claim that tourism will suffer. The rural villages in Alaska are the ones who suffer - 98% are surrounded by or are adjacent to wetlands and have no other option but to build schools, airstrips and basic community infrastructure over marshy areas. Alaska has 170,000,000 acres of wetlands, 88% of which are publicly owned. 60,000,000 of those wetlands are under some sort of federal protection (refuge, park, wilderness). Alaskans have proven we care about our environment and can develop a sustainable economy with minimal impacts. We need not carry the guilt of the rest of the nation. I urge you to support the resolution.

ALASKA WETLANDS COALITION

121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 250 Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: (907) 279-1783 Fax: 276-3887

WETLANDS "LOSS" COMPARISON

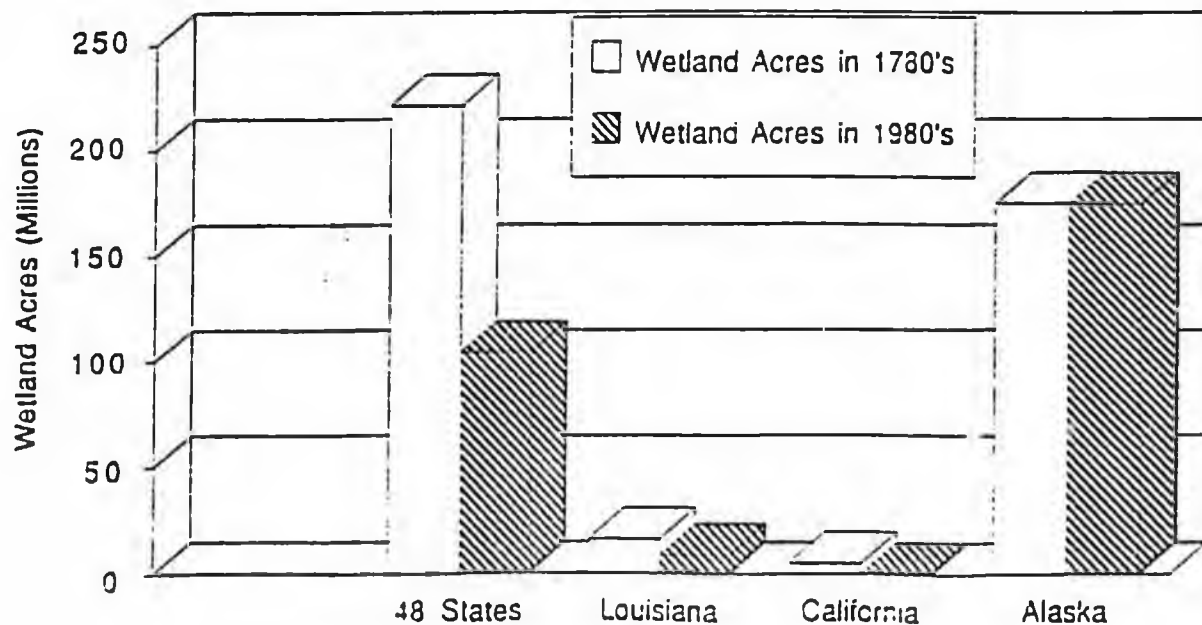
(Chart updated by the Alaska Wetlands Coalition, October 1995)

Louisiana	California	Alaska	48 States	
Total Surface Acres				
31,054,720	101,563,520	375,303,680	1,934,198,400	
Wetland Acres				
16,194,500	5,000,000	*174,883,900	221,129,638	Total Wetlands 1780's
8,784,200	454,000	174,683,900	104,374,314	Total Wetlands 1980's
7,410,300	4,546,000	200,000	116,755,324	Acres Lost Over 200 Years
Percentage Wetlands				
52.10%	4.90%	46.60%	11.40%	1780's Wetlands/Surface Area
28.30%	0.40%	46.50%	5.40%	1980's Wetlands/Surface Area
46%	91%	0.10%	53%	Percentage Lost Over 200 Years

According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates, there were originally about 221 million acres of wetlands in the contiguous United States. By the 1980's, about 104 million acres (47%) remained. Therefore, wetlands reductions in the contiguous United States total about 117 million acres. (Data from Dahl, T.E. 1990. "Wetland Losses in the United States, 1780's to 1980's." U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.)

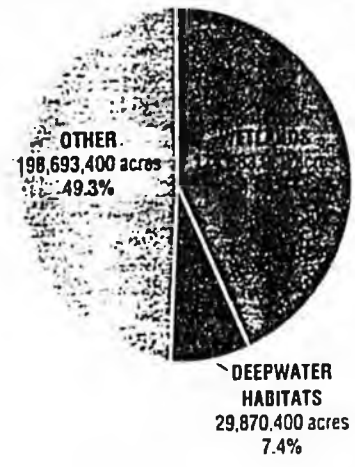
In Alaska, however, only about 200,000 (0.1%) of 174,883,900* million acres of wetlands have been affected by development. (Data from Hall, Frayer, and Wilen 1994. "Status of Alaska Wetlands." U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Region.)

WETLANDS "LOSS" COMPARISON



From Studies in Alaska Wetlands
 and Deepwater Habitats
 1-1974

Figure 1
 Alaska Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats



Figures 2. 3
 Surface Area of Alaska and Lower 48 States

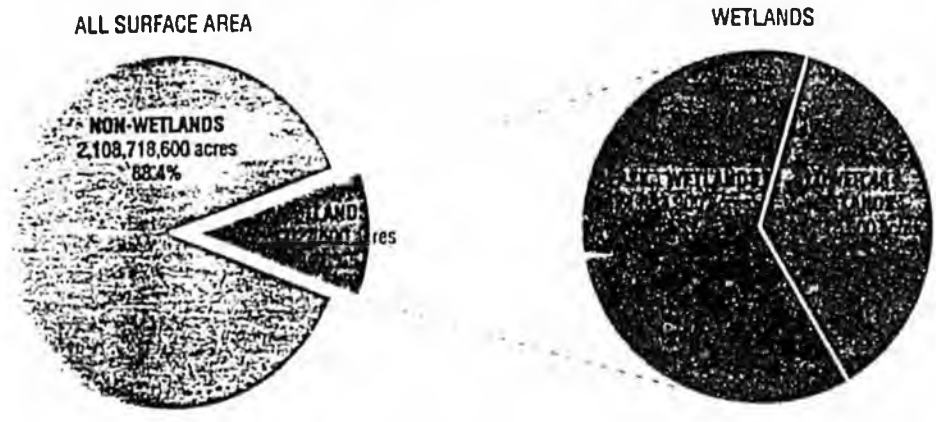
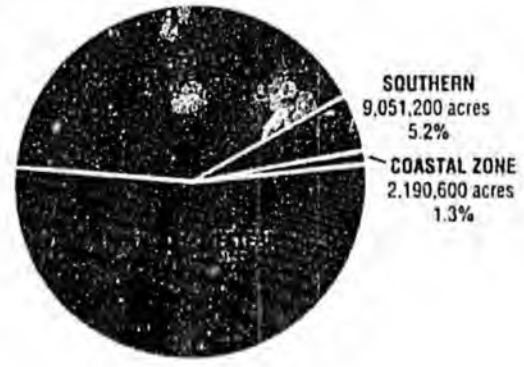


Figure 4
 Distribution of Alaska Wetlands by Region



S 49 IS
105th CONGRESS
1st Session

To amend the wetlands regulatory program under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide credit for the low wetlands loss rate in Alaska and recognize the significant extent of wetlands conservation in Alaska, to protect Alaskan property owners, and to ease the burden on overly regulated Alaskan cities, boroughs, municipalities, and villages.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

January 21, 1997

Mr. STEVENS (for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the wetlands regulatory program under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide credit for the low wetlands loss rate in Alaska and recognize the significant extent of wetlands conservation in Alaska, to protect Alaskan property owners, and to ease the burden on overly regulated Alaskan cities, boroughs, municipalities, and villages.

[Italic->] Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, [<-Italic]

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Alaska Wetlands Conservation Act'.
SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that--

(1) according to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, approximately 170,200,000 acres of wetlands existed in Alaska in the 1780s and approximately 170,000,000 acres of wetlands exist now, representing a loss of less than one-tenth of 1 percent through human and natural processes;

(2) according to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service more than 221,000,000 acres of wetlands existed at the time of Colonial America in the area that is now the contiguous United States and that 117,000,000 of those acres, roughly 53 percent, have been filled, drained, or otherwise removed from wetland status;

(3) Alaska contains more wetlands than all of the other States combined;

(4) 88 percent of Alaska's wetlands are publicly owned, while only 26 percent of the wetlands in the 48 contiguous States are publicly owned;

(5) approximately 98 percent of all Alaskan communities, including 200 of the 209 remote villages in Alaska, are located in or adjacent to wetlands;

(6) approximately 62 percent of all federally designated wilderness lands, 70 percent of all Federal park lands, and 90 percent of all Federal refuge lands are located in Alaska, thus providing protection against use or degradation to approximately 60,000,000 acres of wetlands in Alaska;

(7) 104,000,000 acres of land were granted to the State of Alaska at statehood for purposes of economic development;

(8) approximately 43,000,000 acres of land were granted to Alaska Natives through regional and village corporations and Native allotments for their use and between 45 percent and 100 percent of each Native corporation's land is categorized as wetlands;

(9) development of basic community infrastructure in Alaska, where approximately 75 percent of the nonmountainous areas are wetlands, is often delayed and sometimes prevented by the existing wetlands regulatory program, with minimal identifiable

with substantial conserved wetlands shall not be required, requested, or otherwise utilized to offset impacts to such wetlands.'

(b) DISCHARGE PERMITS- Section 404(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(b)) is amended by inserting after the period at the end the following new sentence:
'Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, such guidelines with respect to disposal sites in any State with substantial conserved wetlands--

'(A) shall not require mitigation to compensate for wetlands loss and adverse impacts to wetlands; (3)

'(B) may include reasonable requirements for the minimization of adverse impacts to wetlands; and

'(C) may include reasonable requirements for the avoidance of impacts, but may not require the permit applicant to establish that alternative sites do not exist.'

(c) GENERAL PERMITS- Section 404(e) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(e)) is amended by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

'(3) Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2), at the request of a State with substantial conserved wetlands, the Secretary shall issue a general permit on a Statewide basis for any category of activities in such State. Any such permit shall apply to the discharge of dredged or fill material into disposal sites that are up to, at a minimum, 10 acres in size, and may not contain guidelines for disposal sites that are more stringent than the guidelines for such sites in that State under subsection (b).'

(d) NONPROHIBITED DISCHARGES- Section 404(f)(1) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(f)(1)) is amended by--

(1) striking the comma at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon; and

(2) adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

'(G) in a State with substantial conserved wetlands--

'(i) associated with airport safety (ground and air); (2)

'(ii) for the construction and maintenance of log transfer facilities relating to log transportation activities; (1)

'(iii) for the construction of tailings impoundments utilized for treatment facilities (as determined by the development document) for the mining subcategory for which the tailings impoundments are constructed; and

'(iv) for the construction of ice pads and ice roads and for the purposes of snow storage and removal.'

(e) DEFINITIONS- Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as amended, is amended further by adding at the end the following new subsections:

'(u) DEFINITIONS- For purposes of this section--

'(1) the term 'conserved wetlands' means wetlands that are located in the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, National Wilderness System, the Wild and Scenic River System, and other similar Federal conservation systems, as well as wetlands located in comparable types of conservation systems established under State or local authority;

'(2) the term 'economic base lands' means lands conveyed to, selected by, or owned by Alaska Native entities pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act Public Law 92-203), as amended, or the Alaska Native Allotment Act of 1906 (34 Stat. 197), as amended, and lands conveyed to, selected by, or owned by, the State of Alaska pursuant to the Alaska Statehood Act (Public Law 85-508), as amended; and

'(3) the term 'State with substantial conserved wetlands' means any State which--

'(A) contains at least 15 acres of conserved wetlands for each acre of wetlands filled, drained, or otherwise

environmental benefit;

(10) the 1899 Rivers and Harbors Act formerly regulated disposition of dredge spoils in navigable waters, which did not include wetlands, to keep navigable waters free of impairments;

(11) the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act, more commonly known as the Clean Water Act, formed the basis for a broad expansion of Federal jurisdiction over wetlands by modifying the definition of 'navigable waters' to include all 'waters of the United States';

(12) in 1975, a United States district court ordered the Army Corps of Engineers to publish revised regulations concerning the program to implement section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which expanded the scope of the program to include the discharge of dredged and fill material into wetlands;

(13) the wetlands regulatory program was expanded yet again by regulatory action to include isolated wetlands (wetlands that are not adjacent to navigable waters), and such an expansion formed the basis for burdensome intrusions on the property rights of Alaskans, Alaskan Native Corporations, and the State of Alaska;

(14) expansion of the wetlands regulatory program in this manner is beyond what the Congress intended when it passed the Clean Water Act and has placed unnecessary economic and administrative burdens on private property owners, small businesses, city governments, State governments, farmers, ranchers, and others, while providing negligible environmental benefits;

(15) for Alaska, a State with substantial conserved wetlands and less than 1 percent private, noncorporate land ownership, the burdens of the current wetlands regulatory program unnecessarily inhibit reasonable community growth and environmentally benign resource development;

(16) Alaska villages, municipalities, boroughs, city governments, and Native organizations are increasingly frustrated with the constraints of the wetlands regulatory program because it interferes with the location of community centers, airports, sanitation systems, roads, schools, industrial areas, and other critical community infrastructure;

(17) policies intended to achieve 'no net loss' of wetlands reflect a response to the 53 percent loss of the wetlands base in the 48 contiguous States, and do not take into account the large percentage of conserved wetlands in Alaska; and

(18) individual landowners in Alaska have lost up to 97 percent of their property value and Alaskan communities have lost a significant portion of their tax base due to wetlands regulations.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT.

(a) NATIONAL POLICY- Section 101(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251(a)) is amended by--

(1) striking 'and' at the end of paragraph (6);

(2) striking the period at the end of paragraph (7) and inserting in lieu thereof a semicolon; and

(3) adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

`(8) it is the national policy to (A) achieve a balance between wetlands conservation and adverse economic impacts on local, regional, and private economic interests, and (B) eliminate the regulatory taking of private property by the regulatory program authorized under section 404;

`(9) it is the national policy to encourage localized wetlands planning (without mandating such planning and by providing funds to facilitate such planning), and to allow greater flexibility for the issuance of wetlands permits in States with substantial conserved wetlands; and

`(10) it is the national policy that compensatory mitigation under section 404 for the development of wetlands in a State

converted within such State (based upon wetlands loss statistics reported in the 1990 United States Fish and Wildlife Service Wetlands Trends report to Congress entitled 'Wetlands Losses in the United States 1780's to 1980's'); or

(B) the Secretary of the Army determines has sufficient conserved wetlands to provide adequate wetlands conservation in such State, based on the policies set forth in this Act.

(v) ALASKA NATIVE AND STATE OF ALASKA LAND EXCEPTIONS-

(1) (A) Notwithstanding subsections (a) or (b), upon application by the holder of economic base lands, the Secretary shall issue a permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material into the navigable waters at a disposal site on such lands if such discharge complies with reasonable guidelines established by the Secretary under this subsection. The guidelines established by the Secretary under this subsection may be no more stringent than the guidelines established under subsection (b) for disposal sites in a State with substantial conserved wetlands, and must take into consideration the requirements of subparagraph (B).

(B) In considering the requirements otherwise applicable under subsections (a) and (b) for use in guidelines applicable to permits issued under this paragraph, the Secretary shall--

(i) balance the standards and policies of this Act against the obligations of the United States to allow economic base lands to be beneficially used to create and sustain economic activity;

(ii) with respect to Alaska Native lands, give substantial weight to the social and economic needs of Alaska Natives; and

(iii) consider the abundance and value of conserved wetlands in the State in which such economic base lands are found.

(2) The Secretary shall issue general permits under subsection (e) (1) for categories of activities on economic base lands relating to the development of rural Alaska community infrastructure (including water and sewer systems, airports, roads, communication sites, fuel storage sites, landfills, housing, hospitals, medical clinics, and schools) without determining whether or not such activities will cause only minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately, or whether or not such activities will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment.

(3) The Secretary shall consult with and provide assistance to Alaska Natives (including Alaska Native Corporations) and the State of Alaska regarding promulgation and administration of policies and regulations under this section.'

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: STR 20
(S) Publish Date: 3/11/97

Revision Date 3/5/97 Dept. Affected _____
Title Modify federal wetlands program for Alaska's needs BRU _____
Sponsor Leman Component _____
Requester _____ Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

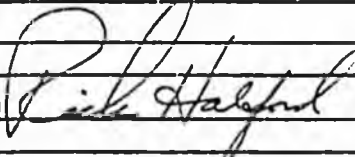
Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution will have no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee Phone 465-4907
 Division _____ Date _____
 Approved by Senator Rick Halford, Chairman  Date 3/10/97
 Agency _____

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SJR

22

MEMBER

TENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
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TWELFTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
THIRTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
FOURTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
FIFTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
SIXTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
EIGHTEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
NINETEENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE
TWENTIETH ALASKA LEGISLATURE

ALASKA STATE SENATE



SENATOR TIM KELLY

STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182
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FAX (907) 465-3756
1-800-770-3822
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SPONSOR SUMMARY

SJR 22 - Urging Alaska For Military Training

Senate Joint Resolution 22 would encourage the U.S. Department of Defense to make maximum use of Alaska's considerable base facilities and training areas for future strategies, as the the department undertakes its periodic review of all national military resources.

Under budgetary and force-reduction pressures, the Department of Defense, through its Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), will analyze virtually all of it activities, resources, plans, and strategies to determine where it may make adjustments in its operations. Additional base closures system-wide are possible as the QDR is initiated.

SJR 22 would invite the department to consider Alaska's vast military-related resources, favorable civilian-military relations, and strategic global location as it pursues the review.

If there are questions, please contact Tim Benintendi at 3770.

17 March 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR Senator Kelly, Senator Taylor

SUBJECT: Background on the Quadrennial Review

1. In 1993, the new Secretary of Defense, Les Aspin, initiated a comprehensive review and evaluation of the Department of Defense's policies and operations with the goal of making them more responsive to the changing post-Cold War world. This action became known as the Bottom Up Review because it looked at every aspect of DoD activities. It considered military doctrine, force structure, weapons systems, acquisition procedures, research and development programs, personnel issues, and every other facet of our Armed Forces. The Bottom Up Review required each of the services to address these issues and develop recommendations for improved operations based on their findings.

2. The results of the Bottom Up Review and the response to its findings were considered to be so positive that military planners recommended that the process be institutionalized and conducted on a regular basis. Secretary Aspin's successor, William Perry, accepted this recommendation and directed that the process be repeated every four years. Today, four years after the original Bottom Up Review, the DoD is repeating the process and calling it the Quadrennial Review. It is expected that the next "Quad" Review will be conducted in 2001 and every four years thereafter.

3. The Quad Review is being conducted by a committee which reports directly to the Secretary of Defense. The committee is attempting to keep its activities confidential until its final report is published in order to limit the opportunities of affected interest groups to influence its findings. Nevertheless, as the committee tasks the services to provide information, a picture of its areas of interest and emphasis is starting to emerge. It appears that the Quad Review will address base structure-force structure alignment issues and could make recommendations for further base closures.

4. The Quad Review's activity in the base structure issue is paralleled by another related study entitled Vision 21. This effort was begun as a one-time initiative with a much narrower in scope than the Quad Review. It is focused on site utilization, assets, and

opportunities to consolidate activities such as laboratories and training programs. There has been some speculation that Vision 21's activities will be consolidated with the Quad Review.

5. The phrases heard most often in discussions of the Quad Review are: "Everything's on the table." and "There are no Sacred Cows." No aspect of DoD operations and activities are off-limits to the committee conducting the review. The committee is setting its own procedures and guidelines as it gathers and evaluates information. The target for publication of the committee's report and recommendations is May.

Chris Nelson
465-3865

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1
 Bill Version: SJR 22
 (S) Publish Date: 3/19/97

STATE OF ALASKA
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SJR 22

Revision Date 3/17/97 Dept. Affected _____
 Title Alaska Military Bases BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Kelly _____
 Requester _____ Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*
 This resolution will have no fiscal impact.

Prepared by Senate State Affairs Phone 465-4522
 Division _____ Date _____
 Approved by Senator Lyda Green, Chair Date 3/17/97
 Agency _____

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SJR

23

FISCAL NOTE

No. 1
 Bill Version: SJR 23
 (S) Publish Date: 2/18/97

STATE OF ALASKA
 1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SJR 23

Revision Date: _____
 Title: Request Congress to change FMAP

 Sponsor: Senate HESS
 Requestor: Senate HESS

Dept. Affected: Health and Social Services
 BRU: Medical Assistance Admin
 Component: Medical Assistance Central Admin
 COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 242
 See also (SN#): _____

Expenditures/Revenues:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL - OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGES IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

FUND SOURCE	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03
1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (please specify)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

POSITIONS	FY98	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03
FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$0.0

ANALYSIS:

(Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution requests Congress to amend the Social Security Act to reflect the higher cost of living in Alaska in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) formula that determines the federal share of the cost of the Medicaid Program. Enactment of this resolution will support the efforts of the Alaska Congressional Delegation in seeking the FMAP change but will not affect costs in the Medicaid Program.

Prepared by: Nancy Weller *NW* *BS*
 Division: Medical Assistance
 Approved by Commissioner: Karen Perdue, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Health & Social Services

Phone: 465-3355
 Date: 03/14/97
 Date: 3/14/97

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WHAT IS FMAP?

- The Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) is the federal share of the cost of the Medicaid Program. The FMAP is also used to calculate the Title IV-E Foster Care and Adoption Assistance federal match, child support disbursements and certain funds under welfare reform.
- FMAP is calculated according to a formula based on per capita income in an individual state in relation to the per capita income of the United States.

WHY IS THE FMAP CALCULATION UNFAIR TO ALASKA?

- The Federal Poverty Level is a criteria used for determining the financial eligibility of individuals and families for the Medicaid, Foster Care and Adoption Assistance Programs.
- The Federal Poverty Level for Alaska is set at 125% of poverty in the lower 48 states, resulting in more people meeting the income qualifying standards.
- There is no corresponding adjustment for the higher cost of living in Alaska in the way that federal law calculates the FMAP.
- Program eligibility is mandated by federal law at the adjusted income levels, the federal government is not participating in the cost of operating the programs at similar adjusted levels.

HOW MUCH HIGHER IS THE COST OF LIVING IN ALASKA?

- Four Alaskan cities were in the 20 highest cost urban areas of the U.S. in 1995.
- For these cities, the overall cost of living, and the cost of health care, compared to the U.S. average for these items were: Kodiak at 50% and 68%, Juneau at 36% and 60%, Fairbanks at 26% and 71%, and Anchorage at 25% and 76%.

WHAT IS OUR CURRENT FMAP?

- Alaska's FMAP is at the lowest allowable percentage under federal law: 50 percent.
- Only eleven states have an FMAP of 50 percent; the highest FMAP is 77 percent (Mississippi).

WHAT WOULD THE FMAP CHANGE MEAN?

- If the FMAP had been adjusted to account for the higher cost of living during the current state fiscal year, the federal share would have changed from 50% to 62%.
- This FMAP adjustment would mean an increase in federal participation of \$39,249,300 for the Medicaid Program and \$646,000 for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, and a loss of \$1.2 million in child support disbursements to the Division of Public Assistance.

SENT BY: STATE OF ALASKA-DC ; 3-13-97 ; 3:44PM ;
TO: SENATE CLERK ; FROM: SENATE CLERK ; TO: 90240801

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P002/005

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S.L.C.

100TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 424

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MURKOWSKI introduced the following bill, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To adjust the Federal medical assistance percentage determined for Alaska under the medicaid program to reflect Alaska's cost-of-living.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Alaska Medicaid Eq-
5 uity Act of 1997".

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1906(b) of the Social Se-
8 curi-ty Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(b)) is amended by adding
9 at the end the following: "Notwithstanding the first sen-
10 tence of this subsection, in the case of Alaska, the Federal

SENT BY: STATE OF ALASKA-DC ; 3-13-97 ; 3:44PM ;
03-13-97 02:40PM FROM SENATOR MUKKOWSKI TO 96245857

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P003/005

919074852204:3 3

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S.L.O.

2

1 medical assistance percentage shall be 100 per centum less
2 that percentage which bears the same ratio to 45 per cen-
3 tum as the square of the adjusted per capita income of
4 Alaska bears to the square of the per capita income of
5 the 50 States. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the
6 adjusted per capita income of Alaska shall be determined
7 by dividing the 8-year average per capita income for Alas-
8 ka by 1.25."

9 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
10 subsection (a) applies to fiscal year quarters beginning on
11 and after the date of enactment of this Act.

SJR

24

SENATE DISTRICT C
KODIAK ISLAND
SOUTHEAST ISLANDS

STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182
(907) 465-4925
(800) 821-4925 (TOLL FREE)
(907) 435-3517 (FAX)

SENATOR JERRY MACKIE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SPONSOR STATEMENT

SJR 24, Tongass Land Use Plan

The purpose of SJR 24 is two-fold. First, it encourages the U.S. Forest Service to bring the decade-long development of the Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) to a conclusion so the people and communities of Southeast Alaska can move forward with their economic and personal lives with some degree of certainty. The resolution supports a level of timber harvest from the Tongass National Forest sufficient to sustain a forest product industry and prevent further job loss and economic disruption in Southeast Alaska.

Secondly, the resolution endorses continued oversight by Congress and the Alaska Congressional delegation of Forest Service management activities relating to the Tongass. This endorsement urges review of the analyses and procedures employed by the Forest Service to ensure that decisions affecting the social and economic well-being of Southeast communities are appropriate and scientifically credible.

After a decade of false starts, intervening federal legislation, court decisions and several public review drafts, the Forest Service appears poised to adopt a final version of the land use management plan for the Tongass. During this time period the Southeast economy has lost \$60 million in forest products payroll and half of its timber jobs. The continuing decline in available timber supply has closed

two pulp mills and one sawmill. Without a plan that ensures some level of harvesting, the existence of any forest product industry in Southeast Alaska is improbable.

On December 20, 1996 the Southeast Regional Timber Task Force passed a resolution urging the Federal government to finalize a plan for timber harvest in the Tongass. The Task Force determined that a minimum annual harvest level of 300 million board feet (MMBF) was necessary to reestablish a viable, integrated timber industry. This volume has been selected by several Forest Supervisors of the Tongass as the preferred alternative in previous drafts of TLMP.

Any delay in the finalization of the Tongass Land Management Plan is detrimental to the social and economic stability of Southeast Alaska. A plan that adopts a minimum 300 MMBF timber supply will stem the current decline and the associated economic depression of Southeast communities dependent on the forest product industry. SJR 24 requests the completion of the long delayed plan and that it include a 300 MMBF timber harvest level.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. _____
Bill Verson: CS STR 24 (RES)
(S) Publish Date: 3-27-97

Revision Date 3/27/97 Dept. Affected _____
Title Tongass Land Management Plan BRU _____
Sponsor Mackie Component _____
Requester _____ Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution will have no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
Division _____
Approved by Senator Rick Halford *Rick Halford*
Agency _____

Phone 465-4907
Date _____
Date 3/27/97

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SJR

25

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 1
Bill Version: STR 25
BILL NO. (S) Publish Date: 4/16/97

Revision Date _____ Dept. Affected _____
 Title Support Access to Denali/Wonder Lake BRU _____
 Component _____
 Sponsor Senator Wilken _____
 Requester Senate Transportation Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This resolution has no fiscal impact on state departments.

Prepared by Senate Transportation Committee Phone 465-6641
 Division _____ Date _____
 Approved by Senator Jerry Ward, Chairman Date 4/4/97
 Agency _____

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GARY WILKEN

SENATOR
Districts 29 & 30
West Fairbanks

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Vice Chairman: Community and
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[www: akrepublicans.org/wilken.htm](http://www.akrepublicans.org/wilken.htm)
E-mail: Senator_Gary_Wilken@legis.state.ak.us

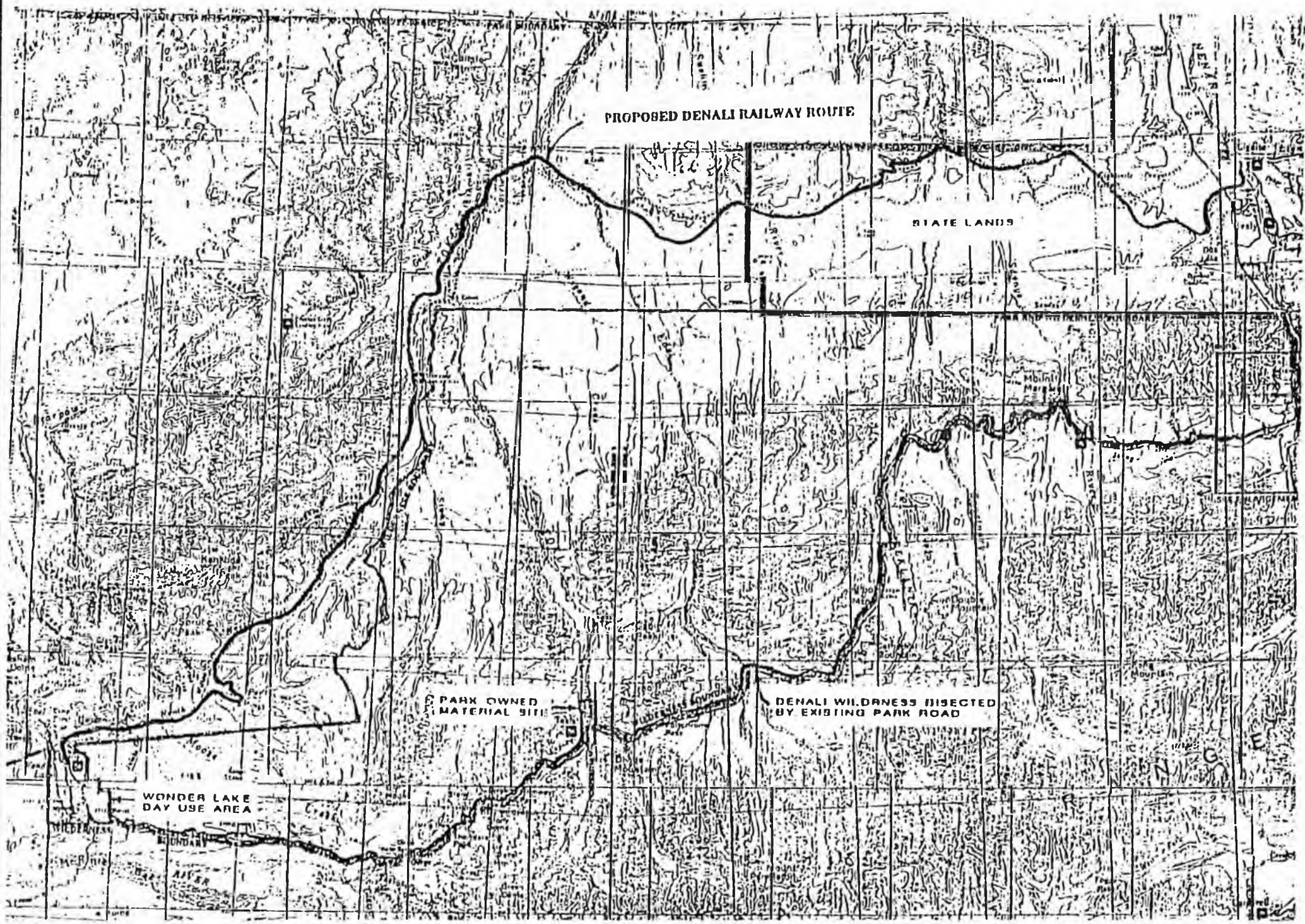
Interior:
119 N. Cushman St., Room 213
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
(907) 452-3421
Fax (907) 452-3426

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Joint Resolution 25 "Support Access to Denali/Wonder Lake"

SJR 25 calls for the Alaska Legislature's endorsement of a proposed northern access railroad route into Denali National Park. A new northern railroad route, connecting the Alaska Railroad with Wonder Lake, would not only provide enhanced viewing opportunities for Alaskans, but for visitors to the state as well. This could serve to bolster tourism in Alaska, since the Park, the Mountain and all of the surrounding wild beauty would be accessible on a year-round basis, instead of just the summer months. In addition to improving access into the Park, this proposal would enable the state to encourage and monitor development opportunities involving the private sector, without substantially affecting the state's financial resources.

This proposed northern access route is supported by the National Park Service Advisory Board along with many of the organizations and communities along the existing Alaska Railroad corridor, including but not limited to the Municipality of Anchorage, Fairbanks North Star Borough, the City of North Pole, the City of Nenana, the City of Seward, and the Mantanuska-Susitna Borough.



PROPOSED DENALI RAILWAY ROUTE

STATE LANDS

WONDER LAKE
DAY USE AREA

PARK OWNED
MATERIAL SITE

DENALI WILDRNESS BISECTED
BY EXISTING PARK ROAD

The Denali Railway System Project

Park Access for the 21st Century

The purpose of this overview is to illustrate how the Denali Railway System will positively effect the visitor/tourism industry in the railbelt region of Alaska and its communities while at the same time making positive impact on future operations of Denali National Park and Preserve.

The Denali Railway System Project (DRS), is tourism infrastructure development for all of Alaska. Infrastructure is usually developed with government funds, the public's money, and generates no revenue, either to repay the cost of the development or produce ongoing revenue for the government that supplied the funds. The DRS is different. The DRS will be built with private capital for the public's benefit. The DRS will be a "keystone" in the tourism infrastructure of Alaska.

The DRS creates a new Denali venue for Alaska's highway visitors and the cruise ship industry during the traditional summer season. Through the implementation of Air-Rail Touring[®], utilizing the international airports at Anchorage and Fairbanks and the Alaska Railroad System, the DRS will attract a new element of visitors to Alaska and Denali - year-round.

Kantishna Holdings Inc., (KHI) an Alaskan corporation, conceived and developed the DRS to provide adequate and feasible access into the Park interior for visitors, inholders and the National Park Service (NPS) and, to create a controlled and regulated form of efficient transportation that will assure long term resource protection of the park environs. The DRS is a "System" which incorporates and integrates all necessary facilities for a complete visitor experience, at the edge of, and in the interior of the Denali National Park. Additionally all elements of the system are located outside the Wilderness areas of the Park. The DRS system includes Visitor Center-Hotels inclusive of Railroad Terminals at both ends of its service line. In short, the DRS will create a new, much needed venue for all Americans and their visitors into Denali.

KHI has proposed that all track and facilities be located on NPS managed lands within Denali, not private lands. This placement should insure the highest level of development quality and eliminate the potential of rambling development. Several sites are suitable for the location of "in-park" facilities in the viewshed of Wonder Lake and Mt. McKinley.

The main objective of the DRS is to provide rail passenger service to the interior of Denali, reducing the congestion on the existing road - a 300' wide Park strip - bisecting the two Wilderness Areas of the Denali.

With the existing road reaching its carrying capacity, the shifting of NPS administrative and other utility traffic destined for the Wonder Lake and Kantishna area, the DRS could eliminate about 1,000 to 1,200 vehicle events per year (each vehicle into the park equaling one vehicle event), which an NPS consultant estimates could be converted to visitor bus events, thus allowing 47,000 to 56,400 more visitors into the park annually.

Wonder Lake is an Icon of Alaska, the location of the best known photos of Mt. McKinley and a remarkable place. As example, a recent PBS series called "Living Edens" was filmed in Denali. The film extolled the virtues of Wilderness, but to the experienced eye, the film was shot mostly from road side locations near Wonder Lake. In truth, Wonder Lake is one of the least accessible destinations for the average Park visitor due to the woefully inadequate transportation system. The DRS will solve this problem without conflicting with visitor activities on the existing road. The road and rail system are in different valleys of the Park separated by a mountain range. The two systems would be in view of each other only near the north end of Wonder Lake. With the volume of visitors to Alaska growing by 7-8% per year the DRS will provide adequate visitor capacity well into the next century. Starting with the estimated 525,000 visitors now visiting the state on a year-round basis who are unable to get into Denali.

List of Benefits of the DRS

- The DRS creates a new venue within the Park and allows for increased access for visitors and residents in a controlled and regulated manner
- The DRS will be located on State lands and National Park lands and be a long term, environmentally safe and sensible solution to visitor and Inholding access problems at Denali National Park.
- The entire route of the DRS and all facilities will be located outside the Wilderness Areas of the Park.
- The DRS will provide adequate and feasible access to the interior of the park on a year-round basis.
- The DRS connects the "Day Use" at Wonder Lake to a gateway area, just north of Healy, Alaska, reducing congestion near the existing Park entrance (a concept suggested in the Vail Agenda).
- The DRS eastern terminus, near Healy, is out of view of the George Parks Highway. Therefore the Project will not contribute to the sense of urban sprawl present near the Park entrance.
- The DRS western terminus at Wonder Lake, could include a Ranger Station with state-of-the-art communications for providing security in the interior region of the park. The DRS proposes to provide residential units for the NPS personnel, eliminating the need for an expanded NPS budget to facilitate the development of the DRS.
- The dry, interior, non-maritime climate of the north side provides grand vistas to the DRS traveler, including the ultimate north side view of Denali.
- All DRS "in-park" facilities are proposed to use LNG / LPG fuel systems and the latest in co-generation techniques for the cleanest possible operation.