

WHEREAS, a road about one hundred and eighty miles in length to connect the Forty Mile Mining District with the Richardson Highway would not only give this old and important section of Alaska access by road to the other parts of the Territory, but would also traverse throughout its entire length a mineralized area whose development would undoubtedly add to the available mineral wealth of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, any proposed trunk highway program would contemplate, the construction of the connecting links referred to and also take into account the advisability of having an ocean outlet at Haines or a connecting international highway to the states that would bind together the principal industrial area of Alaska with overland transportation:

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialist respectfully urges that the Congress of the United States authorize and instruct the Public Roads Administration to make preliminary surveys and studies for a trunk highway that will link together the local roads serving the larger communities of Alaska so that they will be provided with one or more adequate highway outlets to ocean shipping ports on the south coast of the Territory and to the states and to make a report to Congress with a recommendation as to the manner of constructing such trunk system of highways by the United States in cooperation with the Territory of Alaska, in a manner similar to that now provided for in the construction of highways in the several States under the Federal Highway Act.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, February 10, 1941.

Passed by the Senate, March 4, 1941.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 7

TO THE HONORABLE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HONORABLE SAMUEL DICKSTEIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. DIMOND, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA, AND

TO THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, GOVERNOR OF ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in fifteenth regular session assembled, respectfully submits:

WHEREAS, there is pending in the House of Representatives of the Seventy-seventh Congress a Bill known as H. R. 2791, introduced therein on January 27th, 1941, by Mr. Dickstein, Chairman of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization; and,

WHEREAS, by the terms of said H. R. 2791 all unused immigration quotas of all countries for the past six years would be made available to refugees from foreign countries for the purpose of permitting said refugees to migrate to and settle in the Territory of Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the very terms of the Bill indicate that those who would be admitted to the Territory would be indigents, and the admission of large numbers of indigents to Alaska, with its small population and few and scattered industries, would entirely upset the economy of the Territory and become a financial burden not only to the Federal Government but to the Territory, far beyond its means. The result would be to wreck the economic system of Alaska and bring about the complete ruin of the Territory and its present inhabitants; and,

WHEREAS, in the preamble to the Bill it is stated that Alaska is more difficult to defend with a small population than if it were fully settled, experience teaches us that this is not a fact, but rather the opposite is true; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal Government is engaged in building military defenses in Alaska at the present time because of its geographical position with reference to potential enemies of the United States rather than in local defense of the Territory. These defense activities of the Army and Navy are already taxing the industries of Alaska to capacity and the transportation system to more than capacity, so that if the purposes of H. R. 2791 were carried out and the transportation system were burdened with the task of bringing to the Territory large numbers of immigrants, together with supplies and equipment necessary for their subsistence, the facilities would entirely break down and thus greatly hinder and delay the defense preparations now being carried on; and,

WHEREAS, said H. R. 2791, while granting refugees from foreign countries admission to the Territory of Alaska, would by express terms prohibit such refugees from entering the continental United States for a period of five years after their arrival in Alaska, thereby

converting Alaska into the world's largest and most expensive penal colony; and,

WHEREAS, the sponsors of said H. R. 2791, while they do not reside in Alaska, apparently feel that it is right and proper that Alaska should be overrun with foreign refugees, but at the same time take care to safeguard themselves against the fate which they would decree for their fellow citizens who do reside in the Territory of Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the number of foreign refugees permitted to enter Alaska by the terms of H. R. 2791 reputedly exceeds 600,000, or approximately sixteen times the present total white population of the Territory, thus leaving Alaska with a ratio of sixteen aliens to one citizen; and,

WHEREAS, the present inhabitants of Alaska, most of whom have been here for years and who have worked hard and invested here what they have been able to save, want to see Alaska developed in an orderly manner as rapidly as possible, but above all do not want to see such development as has been brought about through their efforts destroyed by the influx of large numbers of refugees or immigrants of the class described in the Bill; and,

WHEREAS, the present inhabitants of the Territory take pride in their reputation for ready response to appeals for aid and assistance to those in need, and are at the present time extending all possible aid to war-sufferers in Britain and such other countries of Europe as have been attacked and overrun by the totalitarian powers but which can still be reached by relief agencies; and,

WHEREAS, we desire to remain in a position to extend such aid within the limits of our powers and to fulfill our duty with respect to national defense, we insist that we can do so more effectively if we are allowed to develop our own economy and to continue our own way of life without having imposed upon us a special immigration policy for the Territory different from that of the States; one which would surely result in financial ruin and suffering, not only to the immigrants and refugees and persons intended to be relieved and benefited by the provisions of H. R. 2791, but to the entire population of Alaska;

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialist respectfully and earnestly requests that H. R. 2791, by Mr. Dickstein, be not passed and that none of the plans which have been heretofore advanced for the colonization of Alaska by bills introduced in the Seventy-sixth Congress be given any further consideration by Congress or by any of the executive departments of the government; and that Congress

in its future consideration of the emigre problem treat and consider Alaska as a part of the United States and extend to the inhabitants of Alaska the same consideration accorded to inhabitants of the States, and not be swayed or influenced by sectionalism or the pressure of minority groups.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, February 14, 1941.

Passed by the Senate, February 14, 1941.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 8

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE HONORABLE JOHN M. CARMODY, ADMINISTRATOR, FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY AND TO THE HONORABLE ANTHONY J. DIMOND, DELEGATE IN CONGRESS FROM ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in the Fifteenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Act, approved November 29, 1921, together with amendments thereto provides for a definite and continuing policy of Federal assistance for the construction of roads in the Several States and the Territories of Hawaii and Puerto Rico which has contributed immeasurably to the development of roads; and,

WHEREAS, the benefits of said Act have not been extended by Congress to the Territory of Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, road building activities in Alaska are now being administered under three different agencies, namely, the Alaska Road Commission under the Department of the Interior, the Public Roads Administration under the Federal Works Agency and the Territorial Board of Road Commissioners, a Territorial agency; and,

WHEREAS, it is believed that a single road planning agency would function more efficiently and economically, and that the existing Territorial road building agency understands the road needs and road problems of the Territory; and,

WHEREAS, the Territory of Alaska is conscious of and appreciates the aid that had been extended to the Territory by the Federal Government in the matter of road construction; and,