

Haines Cut-off throughout the year, and if possible, to make such year around operation a reality as soon as possible; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the members of the Alaska International Rail and

Highway Commission, to Christian A. Herter, the Secretary of State, and to Ernest Gruening, Senator from Alaska, and Ralph J. Rivers, Representative from Alaska.

Passed by the House March 29, 1960.

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 40

**Relating to state acquisition of the Wickersham Collection and establishing a Wickersham Shrine.**

**Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives in First Legislature, Second Session assembled:**

WHEREAS, Judge James Wickersham came to Alaska in the year 1900 and established government and courts from the border to the Bering Sea and from Point Barrow to Southeastern Alaska, and in 1908 was elected as Delegate to Congress; and

WHEREAS, Judge James Wickersham was one of those rare persons who not only played a vital role in history, but also wrote and contributed to the study of history; and

WHEREAS, Judge Wickersham compiled and collected manuscripts, documents, books, maps, tales, and artifacts of Alaska which, together with his personal diaries, writings and letters comprise the most outstanding and valuable single holding of Alaskana now extant; and

WHEREAS, this collection and compilation of historical documents and records of Russian America from the time of Bering's exploration to 1867 when it was purchased by the United States, including Alaska's time as a District, and its early years as a Territory, is much sought after by other libraries and mu-

seums, and its acquisition by one of them might mean its removal from Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the state would be remiss to the point of criminal negligence were it to allow this outstanding historical collection to be taken from it; and

WHEREAS, the House of Wickersham, by virtue of its location, architecture and furnishings is typical of early Alaskana, and should, together with the Wickersham Collection, be preserved for posterity, and would, as a Shrine, be a great asset to the state as a tourist attraction as well as a research center for studies of historical significance; and

WHEREAS, there are national Foundation funds available for restoration and establishment of historical shrines;

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives in First Legislature, Second Session assembled, that the Governor actively seek funds from available Foundation grants or on behalf of the state enter into negotiations for the acquisition of the Wickersham home and collection for the purpose of establishing an Alaskan Historical Shrine, and that the Governor report on the progress with interested parties and negotiations, and make recommendations to the next legislature as to the best method of state acquisition of this collection.

Passed by the House March 29, 1960.

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 41

**Relating to a study on the feasibility of using certain radio equipment to facilitate search and rescue operations in Alaska.**

**Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives in First Legislature, Second Session assembled:**

WHEREAS, adverse weather, limited

daylight in winter, and thousands of miles of unmapped and uninhabited land make search and rescue missions for downed aircraft in Alaska particularly difficult; and

WHEREAS, the use of special radio equipment which would guide searchers to downed aircraft in any weather, in darkness, or in any terrain would be of invaluable assistance to search and rescue missions and would contribute greatly to saving the lives of downed fliers; and

WHEREAS, Simmonds Aerocessories, Inc., has developed such a radio device, called SARAH (Search And Rescue And

Homing), which is in use in 14 countries and will be used by Project Mercury for the recovery of this nation's first astronaut;

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives in First Legislature, Second Session assembled, that the Department of Public Safety conduct a study to determine the feasibility of requiring the use of SARAH by all state-owned aircraft, by commercial aircraft involved in intra-state traffic and state-owned watercraft.

Passed by the House March 29, 1960.

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