

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

Relating to a pioneer access road connecting Paimiut on the Yukon River and Kalskag on the Kuskokwim River.

Be It Resolved by the Senate:

WHEREAS it has for many years been deemed essential to the welfare and economy of Alaska to have a connection between the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers at the Kalskag-Paimiut portage in order that freight and persons may be transhipped; and

WHEREAS memorials and resolutions to the United States Corps of Engineers asking for studies and construction of a canal have brought no results over the years; and

WHEREAS it is now considered feasible to construct a pioneer access road at the portage; and

WHEREAS construction of such a road

would, by making surface transportation to and from the interior vastly simpler and cheaper, encourage development of many natural resources, especially fish and mining;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to direct the Commissioner of Public Works to make an immediate aerial reconnaissance to determine the shortest feasible route between Kalskag on the Kuskokwim River and Paimiut on the Yukon River, and that the Commissioner of Natural Resources recommend construction without engineering, under the pioneer access road program, of a road between these points; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to allocate sufficient monies from pioneer access road funds now available, or to become available during fiscal 1964, for the construction of this road.

Passed by the Senate February 12, 1963.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 13

Relating to the opening of certain federally withdrawn lands for prospecting and mining.

Be It Resolved by the Senate:

WHEREAS reindeer stations and wildlife refuges withdrawn from public entry by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Fish and Wildlife Service are closed to mining and prospecting in Alaska; and

WHEREAS these withdrawals total more than 8,000,000 acres; and

WHEREAS many known deposits of lode and placer gold, strategic and industrial minerals, and coal exist within these withdrawn areas; and

WHEREAS mining operations on St. Lawrence Island, which is usually a hardship area, would create employment opportunities for the native Eskimos and aid their economy; and

WHEREAS, in the case of the large wildlife refuges on Kodiak Island and the Aleutian Islands, orderly prospecting and mining could be carried on without disturbing the wildlife under protection and with no conflict with the control or regulations of the Fish and Wildlife Service as is done in some wildlife refuges in the other states;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President of the United States; the Congress of the United States; the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Philileo Nash, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; the Honorable Frank P. Briggs, Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife, are respectfully urged that these withdrawn lands be opened to prospecting and mining by the respective agencies concerned.

Passed by the Senate February 15, 1963.