



Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

HJR 67 am

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 67

Relating to the United States Postal Service at Fort Yukon and Barrow.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS there are no roads to Fort Yukon and Barrow, Alaska, which can be utilized by any form of ground transportation; and

WHEREAS the many citizens of Fort Yukon and Barrow must totally depend upon air service for all items of mail, including personal communications, business communications, supplies of every kind and description, newspapers, and all other items and commodities that may be forwarded by the United States Postal Service; and

WHEREAS, although there is daily air service to Fort Yukon and Barrow, the postal service, in general, fails to accommodate even the basic needs of the community; and

WHEREAS there are many instances where in-state newspapers (even from Fairbanks) arrive over two weeks late; medical supplies have arrived after they are no longer needed; individuals suffer loss of credit because bills arrive after they are due; businesses are damaged by the lack of communication; transportation facilities have suffered because parts are not received within a reasonable time after they are ordered; and

WHEREAS a host of other inconveniences and aggravations have been foisted upon the residents of Fort Yukon and Barrow because of the less than dependable postal service; and

WHEREAS morale is affected by constant disappointment and frustration over these failures in communication, and personal lives are drastically affected by the lack of dependable ties with family and friends; and

WHEREAS the postal service to Fort Yukon and Barrow has deteriorated to an even greater degree since the institution by the United States Postal Service of the "two track" air transport system;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Post Office is urgently requested to take all action necessary to upgrade the postal services to Fort Yukon and Barrow, at least to the level of adequacy present before institution of the "two track" system.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Winton M. Blount, Postmaster General of the United States; the Honorable Gale W. McGee, U. S. Senator and Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service; the Honorable Thaddeus J. Dulski, U. S. Representative and Chairman of the House Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.