



Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

HJR 73 am

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 73

Relating to airline freight rates for certain motorized vehicles.

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

WHEREAS many, many citizens of the State of Alaska live in remote areas and must depend upon airline service for delivery of all goods, commodities and equipment; and

WHEREAS these Alaskans who live in the areas of the state not containing highways or roads for regular motor vehicle use depend, to a great extent, upon the use of snowmobiles and similar motorized means of transportation; and

WHEREAS at least two airlines in the state who service the more remote areas have seen fit to impose freight rates upon the Alaskan consumer for certain motorized equipment far in excess of the air freight rates for general commodities; and

WHEREAS these rates, which range as high as 250 per cent above the general commodity rates are totally unconscionable and make it impossible for some persons to purchase motorized equipment because there is no alternate method of shipment; and

WHEREAS this inequitable and intolerable situation must be changed so that the average citizen may be afforded the opportunity of having equipment delivered at a reasonable rate; and

WHEREAS the airlines concerned have offered no logical justification, economic or otherwise, which would tend to support these confiscatory charges;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska legislature expresses its most extreme displeasure at this treatment of Alaskans by the private carriers, especially Wien Consolidated and Alaska Airlines and urgently requests the Civil Aeronautics Board, and the Alaska Transportation Commission to conduct immediate and thorough inquiries into the current air freight rates of all airlines operating in Alaska, and to establish air freight rates based upon valid supportable cost factors, being fair both to the airlines and the individual citizen.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Secor D. Browne, Chairman, Civil Aeronautics Board; 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.