



# Alaska State Legislature

1974

Source:

HCR 52 am FCC

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 52

Relating to reduced fares on state ferries for persons 65 years of age or older.

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

WHEREAS many people in Alaska have worked long hard years for the day when they could retire and spend their time traveling throughout the state; and

WHEREAS the recent years of spiraling inflation have severely damaged the financial status of the retired populace because of its fixed income; and

WHEREAS, because of rising costs, many Alaskans cannot financially afford to travel in the state and realize the dream that they have held and worked for; and

WHEREAS, if the people of Alaska could lessen the financial burden for senior Alaskans to travel and see our great state, they would provide a noble service; and

WHEREAS the state has benefited immeasurably from efforts of those citizens who have worked hard and have remained in Alaska; and

WHEREAS it is not unusual for other states and local governments to grant senior citizens special benefits and gratuities: the City of Anchorage, for example, grants residents 65 years of age and older reduced fares on that community's local bus system, a program that is being widely employed throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, during the off-season fall, winter and spring

months, the state ferries frequently operate at less than full capacity; therefore, encouraging travel by senior citizens would swell foot passenger traffic and revenue at no significant increase in cost because the vessels of the Alaska Marine Highway operate at a relatively high fixed cost whether "on line" or not;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Governor to direct the division of marine transportation to initiate a program whereby all persons 65 years of age and older may travel on state ferries for no fare. This travel shall be on a space-available basis only and between two Alaskan points of embarkation from the month of November through the following month of April.