



Alaska State Legislature

1974

Source:

SCR 50

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

Supporting reconstruction of the Copper River Highway.

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

WHEREAS a temporary injunction has been granted by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco to the Sierra Club and the Alaska Conservation Society preventing the Department of Highways from completing construction of the Copper River Highway; and

WHEREAS the Department of Highways did plan to reconstruct the Copper River Highway and had made meaningful progress in reopening the earthquake damaged road; and

WHEREAS the highway was reopened to Mile 75 from Cordova and repairs were made to the Copper River Delta Bridges and the Allen and Million Dollar Bridge; and

WHEREAS the highway, which had large portions of it damaged in the 1964 earthquake, is the only possible surface link between Cordova and Prince William Sound and Interior Alaska: and

WHEREAS the federal government has already appropriated \$22 million for reconstruction of the highway; and

WHEREAS it is the goal of the state to provide the basic transportation facilities that the people of the state desire for basic economic development, recreation, social and health needs; and

WHEREAS the state has pledged to make every effort to enhance the social and economic well-being of the state and

its citizens; and

WHEREAS the delay of the project can do nothing but frustrate the goals of the state to construct a viable and economic transportation system connecting Prince William Sound with interior Alaska;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that it expresses its strong support for the early completion of the Copper River Highway and urges the Governor to utilize all available resources at his command and to obtain removal of the temporary injunction so that reconstruction of the Copper River Highway can proceed; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Department of Highways is commended for their activities in reopening the Copper River Highway to Mile 75; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct the Department of Highways to continue its effort to remove the Ninth Circuit Court injunction preventing maintenance and construction on the Copper River Highway in order that the construction that has been accomplished can be properly maintained and so that construction of the highway can be completed; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the continued maintenance and construction of this road be of the highest priority during the 1974 construction season.