



Alaska State Legislature

1975

Source:

CSHCR 24

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

Proposing a study of the feasibility of a marine maintenance facility in Alaska.

BE IT RESOLVED

BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS the State of Alaska plans to spend approximately \$1,000,000 in Seattle shipyards in fiscal year 1976 to overhaul and maintain the vessels that comprise the fleet of the Alaska Marine Highway; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the substantial outflow of Alaska tax dollars to the State of Washington, generally, and to Puget Sound in particular, represented by this sum, the Alaska state ferries must travel many miles to secure all but the most minor, routine maintenance work done; and

WHEREAS, when there is an emergency requiring immediate access to dry dock facilities, as the state ferry system has experienced on several occasions in recent months, the inability to utilize a marine maintenance facility in Alaska requires that a ship face a long, arduous journey south to Seattle, with all the attendant uncertainties the ship must face mechanically not to mention the potential jeopardy to the safety of the ship and crew; and

WHEREAS, during the annual overhaul period, averaging two months for each vessel each Winter -- too long a period in the judgment of some responsible observers, the ships' crews must live away from their Alaska homes, and the cost of transporting them between Alaska and Puget Sound is great; and

WHEREAS the performance of annual maintenance or overhaul in an Alaska facility would contribute income to the state's frequently sluggish winter economy;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee is respectfully requested to appoint a subcommittee of two members of the Senate and two members of the House of Representatives to conduct or supervise the conduct of, a comprehensive study of the feasibility of a marine maintenance facility within Alaska; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee is authorized to contract with a recognized consultant, or consultants, in the field of marine survey, engineering or architecture to assist the legislature in conducting the feasibility study; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that this subcommittee of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee present its findings and recommendations to the Ninth Alaska Legislature, not later than 30 days after the Second Session convenes.