



# Alaska State Legislature

1976

Source:

SJR 54

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54

Relating to the Seward-Nome historic trail.

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

WHEREAS the communities of Alaska have been connected by trails for thousands of years; and

WHEREAS those same trails started by Native Alaskans became the trails down which the miners, trappers and traders poured into the Interior of Alaska; and

WHEREAS some of those same trails became the roads and railroads which make up the lifelines which connect Alaska's communities today and remain the only connection between most of Alaska's communities; and

WHEREAS the Seward to Nome Trail played a major part in the history of the development of Western Alaska and the United States; and

WHEREAS the Iditarod section of the Trail became internationally famous as the route to the gold fields of Western Alaska and as the route down which, in 1925, diphtheria serum was rushed by dog sled to save the people of Nome; and

WHEREAS a portion of the famous trail has become the route of the annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race; and

WHEREAS the United States Department of the Interior and the State of Alaska have studied the route's historic and recreational potential and have proposed that the trail be classified a National Historic Trail; and

WHEREAS the Alaska American Revolution Bicentennial Commission and the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race Committee have endorsed the proposal for an Iditarod National Historic Trail;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States Congress is urged to designate the 1600 miles of trails from Seward to Nome as the Iditarod National Historic Trail.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Carl Albert, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable James O. Eastland, President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Honorable Henry M. Jackson, Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; the Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Chairman, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; the Honorable James A. Haley, Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable Roy A. Taylor, Chairman, National Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; the Honorable Thomas S. Kleppe, Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable James G. Watt, Director, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, United States Department of Interior; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, United States Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, United States Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.