

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1985

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SCS_CSHJR_16 (Trsp)

8



Relating to essential air service.

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

WHEREAS Alaskan air carriers are recipients of federal funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation Essential Air Service program; and

WHEREAS the President of the United States has proposed a budget for fiscal year 1986 that would eliminate the Essential Air Service program; and

WHEREAS under the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-504) Congress provided that the program would continue until 1988; and

WHEREAS more than 38 Alaska communities would be directly and adversely impacted, and dozens of others would be indirectly impacted by elimination of the funding; and

WHEREAS the Essential Air Service program provides communities with necessary passenger and cargo service; and

WHEREAS a lack of a state highway system forces people in Alaska to be dependent on air travel; and

WHEREAS Alaskan air operators have been developing free market alternatives consistent with the deregulation of air transportation and the scheduled termination of the subsidy in 1988; and

WHEREAS a reduction or elimination of funds for the Essential Air Service program at this time will almost certainly cause a reduction or elimination of air service to those communities where it is not economically feasible to maintain present service

without this program;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that Congress fully fund the Essential Air Service program and that the U.S. Department of Transportation adhere to the scheduled 1988 timetable for elimination of the program.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Robert Dole, Majority Leader of the Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Elizabeth Dole, Secretary of Transportation; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.