

Presented by: Assemblyman Thomas  
Introduced: 10-08-75 (Recessed  
Meeting of 10-02-75)

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 335

A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR OF THE  
STATE OF ALASKA TO REVERSE HIS DECISION  
TO REDUCE FERRY SERVICE TO SOUTHEAST  
ALASKA.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Marine Highway serves as a principal means of transporting people, goods and vehicles to and from the communities of Southeast Alaska, including Juneau; and

WHEREAS, the system exists primarily as a vital service to the people of the state, a service which is as necessary in the winter as in the summer; and

WHEREAS, the ferries should be viewed as an alternative to federally funded highways where such highways are unavailable for economic and environmental reasons; and

WHEREAS, the state administration has announced an intention to drastically curtail the level of ferry service to Southeast Alaska by removing from service the M/V TAKU for the winter months; and

WHEREAS, such a curtailment will have serious effects upon the ability of the people of this region to travel, to obtain medical treatment in inclement weather, and to move goods during those months, and will deprive residents of this region who work on the ferries of employment during those months; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the curtailment of service as announced is to maintain a relatively better level of service for commercial interests of Seattle than for residents of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the decision to curtail service means that funds specifically appropriated by the state legislature to maintain the former level of service, will not be expended, even though such appropriations were not vetoed by the governor; and

WHEREAS, no hearings or consultations among the persons and communities affected were held prior to making

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the decision, evidencing a philosophy that the ferry system should be a profit-making venture and not a critical service heavily relied upon by the people of this state and this region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

That the governor and the legislature be urgently requested to reverse the decision to reduce ferry service.

Adopted this 8th day of October, 1975.

*Wm R Macomber*  
Mayor

Attest:

*Elnes J Emery*  
Clerk