STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2010

Source <u>HJR 47</u> Legislative Resolve No.



Urging the United States Coast Guard to amend its regulations relating to small vessels transporting fuel and supplies to remote communities and businesses in the state.

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

WHEREAS many towns, villages, and settlements, as well as businesses in those towns, villages, and settlements, are located in remote areas of the state; and

WHEREAS not all communities, businesses, and individual residences in the state are able to receive goods and supplies on large barges; and

WHEREAS there is a need in the state for delivery of goods and supplies to isolated communities and businesses that cannot be served by large barges; and

WHEREAS, because of the state's unique geography, 46 U.S.C. 3302(i)(1) allows for single vessel exemptions from certain Coast Guard regulations relating to transportation and delivery of cargo in the state; and

WHEREAS many isolated communities and businesses rely on smaller vessels, rather than large tug-and-barge operations, to survive; and

WHEREAS vessels used to transport small quantities of fuel in shallow coastal water of the state are most appropriately built using modern construction methods and light materials; and

WHEREAS there is a need in the state for smaller vessels to carry fuel, cargo, and passengers at the same time; and

WHEREAS federal regulations in 46 C.F.R. Chapter 1, Subchapters D, I, and T, do not allow smaller vessels in the state to carry fuel, cargo, and passengers concurrently, unless granted an exemption under 46 U.S.C. 3302(i)(1);

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States Coast Guard to amend its regulations to allow small vessels to transport concurrently fuel, cargo, and passengers for delivery to remote communities and businesses in the state; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States Coast Guard to adopt regulations that allow for vessels used to transport small quantities of fuel to be constructed of aluminum.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Janet A. Napolitano, United States Secretary of Homeland Security; Admiral Thad W. Allen, Commandant, United States Coast Guard; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.