

Introduced by: Home, Popp
Date: 4/22/97
Postponed: 5/06/97
Action: Adopted *AS AMENDED*
Vote: 7 Yes, 2 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 97-031**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE FEDERAL
INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY ACT OF 1991**

- WHEREAS,** the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 ("ISTEA") was a bipartisan effort that produced a revolutionary change from past transportation legislation by substantially revamping the federal-aid highway program and the federal transportation program; and
- WHEREAS,** ISTEA has shifted the focus of the federal surface transportation program toward preservation of highway and transit systems, increased efficiency of existing transportation networks, and integration of transportation modes to enhance efficiency of the transportation system; and
- WHEREAS,** more flexibility was given to state and local governments under ISTEA to apply innovative solutions to the transportation problems they face; and
- WHEREAS,** the states and local governments have invested time and energy in making ISTEA function as a productive program and this investment should not be lost by significantly altering the programs initiated by ISTEA; and
- WHEREAS,** Congress should retain the critical role of the federal government to help fund highway, bridge, ferry, and transit projects and to focus the national transportation policy on mobility, connectivity, integrity, safety, and economic competitiveness; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Alaska receives money under ISTEA for construction and improvement of roads, highways and the marine highway system, for bridge replacement and rehabilitation, state and metropolitan transportation planning, transit programs, highway safety programs, and enforcement of truck and bus safety requirements; and
- WHEREAS,** Alaska has 4,300 miles (about 32 percent of the total mileage) of roads eligible for federal assistance under ISTEA; and
- WHEREAS,** surface transportation in Alaska is subject to extreme Arctic and sub-Arctic climate and soil conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State has relied heavily on federal assistance to support construction and improvement of the surface transportation system in the state; and

WHEREAS, the existing surface transportation system in Alaska needs significant improvement in order to remain a safe and efficient system; and

WHEREAS, the funding authorizations for federal assistance and transportation programs under ISTEA will expire September 30, 1997; and

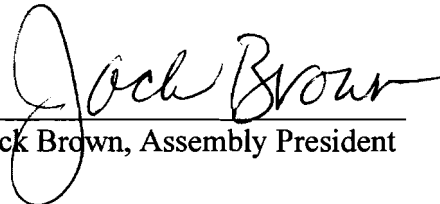
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough respectfully requests Congress to reauthorize the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 ("ISTEA") as soon as possible, with simplification and refinement, but without significant modifications.

SECTION 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough respectfully requests Congress to authorize the maximum level of federal investment possible, over the next five years, for surface transportation projects under ISTEA.

SECTION 3. That copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable John McCain, Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, U.S. Senate; and the Honorable Bud Shuster, Chair, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Rodney E. Slater, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens, the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 6TH DAY OF MAY, 1997.



Jack Brown, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Borough Clerk