EMERGENCY RESCUES AT DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

The bill (S. 698) to review the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues at Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes, was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed; as follows:

SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) In furtherance of the goals of sections 1307 and 1308 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and the provisions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Secretary shall:

1. implement pilot programs to employ residents of local communities at the following units of the National Park System located in northwest Alaska:

(A) Bering Land Bridge National Preserve,

(B) Cape Krusenstern National Monument,

(C) Kobuk Valley National Park, and

(D) Noatak National Preserve;

2. report on the results of the programs within one year to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives;

(b) In implementing the programs, the Secretary shall:

1. consult with the Native Corporations, non-profit organizations, and Tribal entities in the immediate vicinity of such units and shall also, to the extent practicable, involve the local communities at the following units of the National Park System located in northwest Alaska:

(A) Bering Land Bridge National Preserve,

(B) Cape Krusenstern National Monument,

(C) Kobuk Valley National Park, and

(D) Noatak National Preserve;

2. report on the results of the programs within one year to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives.

NATIVE HIRING BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN ALASKA

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 748) to improve Native hiring and contracting by the Federal Government within the State of Alaska, and for other purposes, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments; as follows:

SEC. 1. REPORT.

(a) Within six months after the enactment of this Act the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretary”) shall submit a report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate, and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives:

1. describe, in detail, the measures and actions that will be taken, along with a description of the anticipated results to be achieved during the next three fiscal years. The report shall focus on lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior in Alaska and shall also address any laws, rules, regulations, and policies which act as a deterrent to hiring Native Alaskans or contracting with Native Alaskans to perform and conduct activities and programs of those agencies and bureaus under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior;

(b) The report shall be completed within existing appropriations and shall be transmitted to the Committee on Resources of the United States Senate, and the Committee on Resources of the United States House of Representatives.

NATIONAL DISCOVERY TRAILS ACT OF 1999

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 734) entitled “National Discovery Trails Act of 1999,” which had been reported from the Committee on