HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 34

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES COGHILL, Barnes, Cowdery, Harris, Smalley, James, Therriault

Introduced: 3/31/99
Referred: House Special Committee on World Trade and State/Federal Relations

A RESOLUTION

Relating to the federal estate and gift taxes.

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

WHEREAS our form of government is premised on the right to enjoy the fruit of one’s labor, to own one’s own possessions, and to pass on one’s bounty to one’s heirs; and

WHEREAS, when a person works for a lifetime to build assets, saving and investing money, building a business, or buying and developing land, that person has a moral right to pass those assets on to the person’s family without being penalized with inheritance taxes; and

WHEREAS there is a fundamental problem of double taxation when a decedent’s survivors are forced to pay an inheritance tax on assets acquired by the decedent with after-tax dollars; and

WHEREAS we need a tax system that encourages lifelong saving and enterprise and that rewards, rather than punishes, the traditional family; and

WHEREAS we need a government that rewards "blood, sweat, and tears" by abolishing the estate and gift taxes completely; and

WHEREAS repealing the federal estate and gift taxes is not an issue of politics and wealth but a matter of principle;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the United

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States Congress to enact H.R. 86 and repeal subtitle B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, relating to the federal estate, gift taxes, and generation-skipping transfer.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Christopher Cox, U.S. Representative from California, primary sponsor of H.R. 86; 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.