

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR MEYER

Introduced: 3/22/11

Referred: Health and Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proclaiming September 9, 2011, as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are a leading cause of preventable and
4 permanent birth defects and mental retardation in the United States; and

5 **WHEREAS** the birth defects associated with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders include
6 brain damage, facial deformities, and deficits in growth, learning, memory, and internal organ
7 development; and

8 **WHEREAS** fetal alcohol spectrum disorders result from ingestion of alcohol by a
9 woman during pregnancy; and

10 **WHEREAS** Alaska has the highest known incidence of fetal alcohol spectrum
11 disorders in the United States; and

12 **WHEREAS** fetal alcohol spectrum disorders affect all racial and socioeconomic
13 groups; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in addition to the personal emotional costs, fetal alcohol spectrum
15 disorders cost taxpayers millions of dollars over an affected individual's lifetime;

16 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims September 9, 2011,

1 as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day; and be it

2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the people of the state observe Fetal Alcohol Spectrum
3 Disorders Awareness Day with appropriate efforts to promote awareness of the effects of
4 prenatal exposure to alcohol and of the fact that there is no known safe level of alcohol
5 consumption during pregnancy, to increase identification of children with fetal alcohol
6 spectrum disorders, and to improve the lives of those affected by fetal alcohol spectrum
7 disorders.