

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Representative Bob Herron

Official Business



State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska
99801-1182

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 19

SUPPORTING EFFORTS OF RECOVER ALASKA

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Alaska is “The Great Land” – and we know our great land takes first place on a number of lists. Year after year, Alaska tops national state-by-state rankings for domestic violence, sexual assault, certain serious illness, and suicide rates. More than just shocking numbers on paper, these “firsts” are loaded with real-life stories of hardship and pain. A major factor in the struggle? Excessive alcohol consumption.

Recover Alaska is a public-private partnership initiative formed by a dynamic group of concerned Alaska business, government, and independent leaders. Together, members share expertise in the criminal justice and health care systems, community development, and other fields touching on the causes and consequences of excessive alcohol consumption.

Working with diverse stakeholders, Recover Alaska pursues a variety of strategies to effect long-term change. Strategies include (but are by no means limited to):

- Implementation of a comprehensive statewide communication and advocacy plan to educate the public about the negative impacts of excessive alcohol consumption on individuals, families, communities, and the state as a whole;
- Development of a one-stop-shop for Alaskans to access accurate information, as well as prevention and treatment referral services; and
- A sincere review of laws governing the sale and distribution of alcohol in the state.

Recover Alaska is *not* anti-alcohol, anti-self determination, or anti-business. Rather, in the course of seeking to reduce the occurrence and the aftermath of excessive consumption, Recover Alaska supports healthier communities and brighter futures for all Alaskans.

I ask for your support of HCR 19.