

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15(title am)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES PORTER, Croft, Smalley, Murkowski, Joule

SENATORS Halford, Taylor, Wilken, Leman, Tim Kelly

Amended: 1/24/00

Introduced: 1/10/00

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the governor to proclaim March 2000 as Developmental Disability
2 Awareness Month.

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

4 **WHEREAS** nearly 12,000 Alaskans have developmental disabilities that are based on
5 physical or mental impairments or a combination of physical and mental impairments; and
6 **WHEREAS** persons with developmental disabilities often have substantial functional
7 limitations to being able to take care of themselves or to being economically self-sufficient;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS** these limitations on major life activities are generally life-long and require
10 a wide array of services and support systems; and

11 **WHEREAS** the individualized assistance offered to persons with developmental
12 disabilities by the state is complemented by the effective advocacy of the caring people of
13 various organizations that make up the Key Campaign, such as the Key Coalition, community
14 providers, people with developmental disabilities and their families, and the Governor's
15 Council on Disabilities and Special Education; and

16 **WHEREAS** the legislature applauds the efforts of the Key Campaign in helping to

1 ensure that more Alaskans with developmental disabilities and their families are able to
2 participate in and contribute to their communities through integration and inclusion in the
3 economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstreams; and

4 **WHEREAS** the legislature wishes to acknowledge the power of community that is
5 exemplified by the Key Campaign; and

6 **WHEREAS** the legislature wishes to promote awareness of the needs of persons with
7 developmental disabilities and the extent to which these persons can share in and contribute
8 to the life of each community where they live;

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
10 governor to proclaim March 2000 as Developmental Disability Awareness Month and urges
11 schools, civic groups, and governmental agencies to observe the month by suitable activities.