

**CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35(STA)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 5/1/98**

**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Establishing a Joint Task Force on the Census and Redistricting.**

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

**3 WHEREAS** legislative districts in Alaska are redrawn every 10 years following the  
**4** decennial census conducted by the United States Bureau of the Census; and

**5 WHEREAS** Alaska's share of federal funding for many programs is also determined  
**6** by the census population numbers; and

**7 WHEREAS** the United States Bureau of the Census is currently preparing for Census  
**8** 2000, in which every American is to be counted during February and April 2000; and

**9 WHEREAS** much of the United States Bureau of the Census' ongoing effort and  
**10** preparation ask for and encourage the active involvement of state, local, and American Native  
**11** leaders and officials; and

**12 WHEREAS** the Alaska Department of Labor, through its research and analysis  
**13** division, is being encouraged to work cooperatively with the United States Bureau of the  
**14** Census to ensure an accurate count in Alaska and that will optimally produce useful data for  
**15** many purposes, including redistricting; and

**16 WHEREAS** it should be the goal of the legislature to help the United States Bureau  
**17** of the Census and the Department of Labor in the upcoming census to obtain the most

1 accurate count ever taken of Alaskans; and

2       **WHEREAS** Alaska's Native population living in rural villages will be the first  
3 Americans counted in Census 2000 because the United States Bureau of the Census will  
4 conduct an early count in February 2000 before rural villagers disperse to fish camps and  
5 other springtime activities; and

6       **WHEREAS** the United States Bureau of the Census, the Department of Labor, and the  
7 legislature should be working with Alaska Native leaders to ensure a full and accurate count  
8 of the Native population is achieved; and

9       **WHEREAS** it is imperative that the legislature be informed of and involved in the  
10 process of preparing for Census 2000;

11       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature establishes a four-member task  
12 force, consisting of two members of the Senate, one each from the majority and minority  
13 caucuses, appointed by the President of the Senate, and two members of the House of  
14 Representatives, one each from the majority and minority caucuses, appointed by the Speaker  
15 of the House of Representatives, to track census and redistricting issues on behalf of the  
16 legislature and to report to the legislature by the first day of the First Regular Session of the  
17 Twenty-First Alaska State Legislature; and be it

18       **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Task Force on Census and Redistricting work  
19 cooperatively with the United States Bureau of the Census, the Department of Labor, local  
20 officials, and other entities involved in the census-taking process with the goal of obtaining  
21 and reporting back to the House of Representatives and the Senate pertinent and useful  
22 information that will facilitate the bodies' understanding of census data, redistricting trends,  
23 and anticipated legal issues surrounding the process; and be it

24       **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Joint Task Force on Census and Redistricting is  
25 terminated on the day the First Regular Session of the Twenty-First Alaska State Legislature  
26 convenes.