

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES PHILLIPS, Green, Grussendorf, Kohring, Dyson, Foster, Smalley

SENATOR Leman

Introduced: 2/26/99

Referred: House Special Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, Finance

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate
2 the marriage penalty by providing that income tax rate bracket amounts, and the
3 amount of the standard deduction, for joint returns shall be twice the amounts
4 applicable to unmarried individuals.

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

6 WHEREAS the federal government is anticipating a budget surplus of \$1.6 trillion
7 over the next 10 years; and

8 WHEREAS the Congress is considering various options for returning some of that
9 surplus to hardworking taxpayers; and

10 WHEREAS, under current law, 21,000,000 married couples pay approximately \$1,400
11 more a year in taxes than they would if they were single; and

12 WHEREAS the institution of marriage should be supported and not penalized by the
13 federal government;

14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress of the United
15 States is urged to pass legislation to remove from the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 the
16 current discrimination against married individuals in all instances of such discrimination; and

1 be it

2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the income tax rate paid by a married couple be no
3 higher and the standard deduction no lower than that of two single individuals.

4 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
5 United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President
6 of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Robert E. Rubin, Secretary of the U.S. Treasury; the
7 Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable
8 Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable
9 Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
10 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and to all other members of the U.S. Senate
11 and the U.S. House of Representatives serving in the 106th Congress.