

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/16/01

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KAPSNER, Dyson, Morgan, Murkowski, Hudson, McGuire, Wilson, Halcro, Meyer

SENATORS Ward, Halford, Pearce, Leman, Taylor, Green, Ellis, Davis, Austerman, Elton, Wilken

A RESOLUTION

- 1 **Requesting the Governor to declare March 18 - 24, 2001, to be Inhalants and Poisons**
2 **Awareness Week and August 26 - September 1, 2001, to be Inhalant Awareness Week.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** all communities should be made aware of the potential harm of poisons
5 and inhalants because poisons and the improper use of inhalants pose an ever-present danger
6 to Alaska, its communities, and its people; and

7 **WHEREAS**, while legal and helpful when properly used and administered, these
8 substances can be disabling and even fatal when misused; and

9 **WHEREAS** statistics indicate that a significant percentage of elementary school age
10 children as well as adolescents and adults have experimented with or are likely to experiment
11 with inhalants; that more than 70 percent of chronic substance abusers began with inhalants,
12 which are the fourth most used addictive substance after tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana; that
13 inhalants often lead to the use of other illegal drugs; that chronic inhalant abusers suffer
14 permanent and severe brain damage; that other risks include heart failure, loss of
15 consciousness, and irreversible damage to the liver, kidneys, and bone marrow; and that more

1 than 1,400 legal products can be inhaled to "get high"; and

2 **WHEREAS**, each year, more than 1.8 million people suffer from ingestion of or
3 exposure to household poisons; most often, it is children under the age of six who experience
4 the effects of accidental poison exposure, and, in most cases, common household items
5 including aspirin, cough and cold remedies, perfumes, and cleaning products are the source of
6 the poison; and

7 **WHEREAS** poisons and inhalants pose a threat to the well-being of the citizens of the
8 state; and

9 **WHEREAS** Alaska is taking a leading role in developing inhalant treatment protocols
10 and encouraging inhalant prevention efforts through the Annual Inhalant Prevention
11 Conference and the establishment of a statewide inhalant intervention program, with a
12 residential treatment program opening in Bethel, Alaska, in August 2001;

13 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages support of the
14 cooperative efforts of the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition and other local, state, and
15 federal organizations and communities that are working together to prevent alcoholism and
16 drug abuse by their efforts to make others aware of the dangers of inhalants and poisons; and
17 be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
19 Governor to proclaim the week of March 18 - 24, 2001, as Inhalants and Poisons Awareness
20 Week to coincide with the National Inhalant and Poison Awareness Week and also to
21 proclaim the week of August 26 - September 1, 2001, as Inhalant Awareness Week to
22 coincide with the Fourth Annual Inhalant Prevention Conference and the grand opening of the
23 Statewide Residential Inhalant Treatment Program; and be it

24 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests and
25 encourages all public and private agencies and citizens of the state to observe and recognize
26 Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week and Inhalant Awareness Week with appropriate
27 activities, including using every means available to inform the children and families of Alaska
28 about the dangers of inhalants.