

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS WARD, Ellis, Lincoln, Taylor, Leman, Elton, Cowdery, Davis, Olson, Stevens, Austerman, Halford, Hoffman

REPRESENTATIVES Murkowski, James, Dyson, Bunde, Joule

Introduced: 1/25/02

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to declaring March 2002 as Sobriety Awareness Month.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** it is the policy of the State of Alaska, under AS 47.37.010, "to recognize,
4 appreciate, and reinforce the example set by its citizens who lead, believe in, and support a
5 life of sobriety"; and

6 **WHEREAS** sobriety has been defined to mean "a positive, healthy, and productive
7 way of life, free from the devastating effects of alcohol and drugs" by more than 50 profit and
8 nonprofit organizations, community groups, and student governments throughout the state;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS** these organizations, community groups, and student governments
11 constitute what is commonly referred to as a growing "sobriety movement"; and

12 **WHEREAS** the "sobriety movement" is interpreted as "[t]he collective effort on the
13 part of individuals, families and communities, and public and private agencies, affected by,
14 concerned with, and working toward the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, who by
15 example encourage and support others in leading a life of sobriety"; and

16 **WHEREAS** the practice and benefits of leading a life of sobriety to Alaska's citizens

1 are threefold:

2 (1) improvement in the quality of life and health of individuals, families, and
3 communities;

4 (2) reduction in the incidence of alcohol and drug related crimes;

5 (3) reduction in the burden on government by not having to exhaust its
6 resources to pay for the pervasive problems caused by alcohol and drug abuse; and

7 **WHEREAS** March has been designated "Sobriety Awareness Month" by the Alaska
8 State Legislature and Governor Knowles every year since 1995 to recognize, appreciate, and
9 reinforce the example set by citizens who lead, believe in, and support a life of sobriety;

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the month of March 2002 should be proclaimed as Sobriety
11 Awareness Month; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Governor Tony Knowles proclaim the same and have
13 copies of the proclamation sent to all the respective departments and departmental agencies
14 within the administration that fund or have contact with youth, schools, family services, or
15 provide rehabilitation or correctional services; and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that all Alaska citizens who lead, believe in, or support a
17 life of sobriety indicate so by wearing a white ribbon of their choosing so that they may be
18 readily recognized and appreciated during Sobriety Awareness Month 2002.