

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS DUNBAR, Gray-Jackson

Introduced: 5/5/23

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Recognizing the shortage of affordable housing available in the state; supporting public-**
2 **private partnerships that maximize the impact of public funding; and urging the state to**
3 **support Housing Alaskans.**

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

5 **WHEREAS** there is a shortage of affordable housing in the state; and

6 **WHEREAS** the average home sales price in the state has risen 17 percent since 2019,
7 and rents rose eight percent between 2021 and 2022; and

8 **WHEREAS** the increase in housing costs in the state is most economically harmful to
9 low- and middle-income households and leads to overcrowding and an inability for
10 households to meet food, medical, and other family needs; and

11 **WHEREAS**, because a lack of safe and affordable housing is a key barrier to
12 attracting and retaining workers, the housing shortage in the state inhibits economic growth
13 and hurts the state economy; and

14 **WHEREAS** construction has slowed considerably because housing projects do not
15 account for the actual sale or rental prices consumers can afford, and Alaska is one of just

1 three states where new housing construction permits declined between 2019 and 2022; and

2 **WHEREAS**, because the average house in the state was built in 1985, almost 40 years
3 ago, housing preservation is critical, and more funding is needed to maintain and preserve
4 existing housing while new housing units are added to the market; and

5 **WHEREAS** the scale of the housing problem in the state and the funding needed to
6 address it requires creative solutions; and

7 **WHEREAS** Housing Alaskans was formed as a public-private partnership to produce,
8 preserve, and protect housing for all residents of the state and will work to leverage state,
9 federal, and municipal resources with philanthropic contributions to increase the housing
10 supply throughout the state; and

11 **WHEREAS** funds of Housing Alaskans are invested, managed, and granted by the
12 Alaska Community Foundation through an independent board of directors that represents the
13 geographic, ethnic, and cultural diversity of all residents of the state, including representation
14 from various state regions, sectors affected by the housing crisis, and those who have
15 expertise in the state in housing needs;

16 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the shortage of
17 affordable housing available across communities in the state and the significant social and
18 economic costs of not addressing this housing shortage; and be it

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports public-private
20 partnerships that maximize the impact of public funding; and be it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the state to support
22 Housing Alaskans to leverage funding to preserve existing and build new housing across the
23 state.