

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES DRUMMOND, Tuck, LeDoux

Introduced: 2/19/18

Referred: Education

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proclaiming March 27, 2018, as Alaska Education and Sharing Day.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** excellence in education is vital to the success of our nation, our state, and
4 our communities; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in the great state of Alaska, we seek the betterment of our citizens and
6 look to provide each child and adolescent with a good education; and

7 **WHEREAS** education develops the intellect and prepares students for the
8 responsibilities and opportunities of the future through lessons in literacy, math, and science;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS** the Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, a global spiritual leader who
11 dedicated his life to the betterment of mankind, provided a shining example of what education
12 ought to be for all people; and

13 **WHEREAS** the Rebbe was a tireless advocate for youth, emphasizing the importance
14 of education and good character and instilling hope for a brighter future in countless people
15 around the world; and

16 **WHEREAS** the Rebbe taught that education, in general, should not be limited to the

1 acquisition of knowledge and preparation for a career, nor should its sole focus be on making
2 a better living; and

3 **WHEREAS** the educational system must also focus on building character by
4 emphasizing the cultivation of universal moral and ethical values that have been the bedrock
5 of society from the dawn of civilization, including the values known as the Seven Noahide
6 Laws, which have often been cited as a guarantee of fundamental human rights; and

7 **WHEREAS** the Rebbe taught that people must think in terms of creating better lives
8 for all members of society and that focusing on the development of character, as well as
9 strong moral and ethical values, would further that goal; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in recognition of the Rebbe's outstanding and lasting contributions to
11 global education and focus on morality and acts of charity, the Rebbe has been awarded the
12 Congressional Gold Medal, and the United States Congress has established his birthday as a
13 national day to raise awareness of the importance of strengthening the educational system for
14 our children; and

15 **WHEREAS**, every year since 1978, on the Rebbe's birthday, the President of the
16 United States, regardless of political affiliation, has paid recognition to the Rebbe's vision by
17 proclaiming the day "Education and Sharing Day, USA"; and

18 **WHEREAS** we strengthen the character of our youth by encouraging them to serve a
19 cause greater than themselves and by fostering values such as courage and compassion; and

20 **WHEREAS**, by instilling a spirit of service in our children, we create a more
21 optimistic future for our children and the state;

22 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims March 27, 2018, to
23 be Alaska Education and Sharing Day.