

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY SENATORS TILTON, Rauscher, Myers, Stedman, Kaufman, Claman, Gray-Jackson, Giessel, Cronk, Bjorkman, Yundt, Olson, Stevens**

**Introduced: 1/21/26**

**Referred: Education, State Affairs**

**A RESOLUTION**

1    **Recognizing and commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United**  
2    **States of America; encouraging participation in commemorative events; and**  
3    **encouraging educational institutions to enhance civics education.**

4    **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:**

5            **WHEREAS** July 4, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary, or semiquincentennial, of the  
6    adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress in  
7    Philadelphia in 1776, signifying the founding of the United States of America; and

8            **WHEREAS** the Declaration of Independence proclaimed timeless principles of  
9    profound significance to the national heritage of the United States, including that all people  
10   are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the  
11   pursuit of happiness, and that a government derives its just powers from the consent of the  
12   governed; and

13           **WHEREAS** the founding of the United States established the principle of federalism,  
14   emphasizing a decentralized system of government in which powers are divided between  
15   national and state governments, fostering liberty, accountability, and responsiveness to local

1 communities; and

2 **WHEREAS** the decentralized governance model has allowed for innovation, diverse  
3 policy approaches, and stronger accountability to the citizens of each state, ensuring that  
4 government remains close to and reflective of the people's will; and

5 **WHEREAS** the founding of the United States initiated a journey toward forming "a  
6 more perfect Union," marked by historic achievements, struggles, and progress in realizing  
7 the nation's founding ideals for all its citizens; and

8 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska has played a significant role in the history of the  
9 United States, contributing to the nation's development, culture, economy, and defense  
10 through the efforts and sacrifices of its citizens; and

11 **WHEREAS** the semiquincentennial offers a unique opportunity for the people of the  
12 state to reflect on a shared history, honor the diverse contributions of all Americans, celebrate  
13 a heritage of liberty, and look forward to the future citizens strive to create for the next  
14 generations; and

15 **WHEREAS** commemorative activities across the state will provide educational  
16 opportunities, foster civic engagement, encourage community participation, and strengthen  
17 appreciation for the history, federalist principles, and foundational ideals on which both the  
18 nation and this state were built;

19 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate recognizes and commemorates the upcoming  
20 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026, of the founding of the United States of America; and be it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate encourages all citizens, communities,  
22 educational institutions, civic organizations, and businesses in the state to participate in  
23 commemorative events and activities that involve reflecting on the nation's history,  
24 celebrating its achievements, and reaffirming a commitment to the ideals of liberty, equality,  
25 self-government, and federalism; and be it

26 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate strongly encourages educational institutions  
27 across the state to enhance civics education, ensuring that future generations understand the  
28 critical importance of active civic participation, the principles of federalism, and the  
29 decentralized governance that protects liberty and promotes responsive government.