
HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION 17
"URGING THE UNITED
STATES CONGRESS TO
PASS THE TRUTH AND
HEALING COMMISSION
ON INDIAN BOARDING
SCHOOL POLICIES
ACT."

Representative McCormick

Alaska State House

District 38





Indian Children from the Sheldon Jackson School, Sitka



Alaska State Library - Historical Collections

HJR17

- Support US Senate Bill 1723
- Federal Truth & Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act
- 2022 Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report findings
- Alaska Native Heritage Center Lach'qu Sukdu Research Program database/research
- Alaska Federation of Natives Resolution 23-14 in support of S.1723

HJR17

INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

- 521 recorded boarding schools (408 federal government-funded)
- History of abuse & trauma
- Living survivors
- Primary source records & documents
- Mission schools & infrastructure existing today
- Modern presence (i.e. Sheldon Jackson)



INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

ALASKA

Systemic Institutional Practices

- Prohibition of indigenous language
- Cultural elimination & forced assimilation
- Pedophilia
- Unmarked graves & undocumented deaths
- Displaced children & families
- Damaging experiences of abuse

Trauma

- Beating, torture, humiliation, punishments
- Disruption of self, family, community, identity
- Life-long & multi-generational trauma
- Lack of recognition of experiences
- Loss of people, families, communities, history & cultures
- Irreversible harms committed

TRUTH & HEALING COMMISSION ON INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS POLICIES ACT

- Acknowledging harm, forced assimilation & elimination of culture
- Database volume of cases
- Source record collection
- Document experiences of abuse
- Inter-generational impacts
- Investigate & report findings
- First step



This is the first group boarding pupils at U.S. Govt. school White Mt. Roming found a few north as Pt. Barrow and south to a point 400 miles up the Yukon river from St. Michael. A typical cross section of the most intelligent Esquimaux people.

SENATE BILL 1723

29 BI-PARTISAN CO-SPONSORS

Sen. Lisa Murkowski

- Co-Chair, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- Co-sponsor and Senate Champion
- Vocal advocate

Sen. Deb Haaland

- Secretary of Interior
- 2020 bill first introduced as Senator
- Introduced Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative



ALASKA BOARDING SCHOOLS

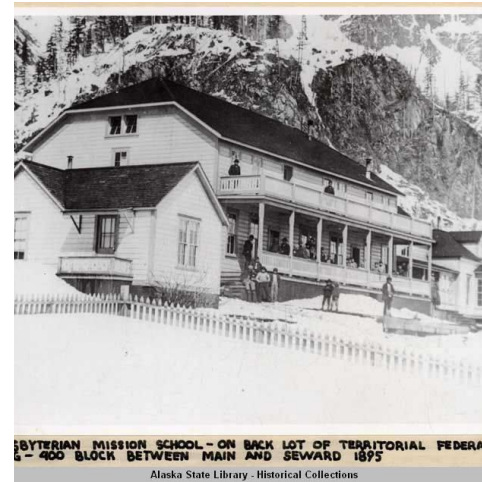
SOUTHEAST



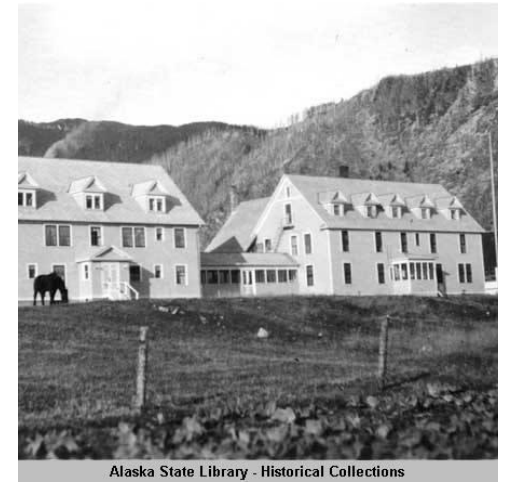
Wrangle Institute
Wrangle



Sheldon Jackson
College
Sitka



Presbyterian Mission
School
Juneau



Haines House
Haines



QUYANA CAKNEQ

Representative McCormick - District 38

House Joint Resolution 17