



Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

HJR 56

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56

Relating to the prevention and treatment of hearing loss.

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

WHEREAS widespread chronic ear infection destroys the hearing in hundreds of Alaskan children each year before they have acquired proficiency in speech and language; and

WHEREAS the loss of communicative skills, notably speech and hearing, may render a person handicapped; and

WHEREAS the loss of hearing has been shown by the Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation's "Survey of Handicapping Conditions" to be Alaska's most handicapping condition, adversely affecting the health, education, social growth and economic independence of our citizens, and therefore, the complete development of Alaska's manpower; and

WHEREAS the number of people affected and the size of the state require additional professional persons in the allied fields of nursing, audiology, medicine and education of the hearing handicapped; and

WHEREAS it is essential that comprehensive programs be developed to utilize optimally the professional services available in the state for the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of hearing loss;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Legislature fully endorses the Department of Health and Welfare's grant application to the Office of Comprehensive Health Planning, U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, as an initial step to supplement

the present professional nursing, audiology, health education and medicinal services through additional staff and funds, and respectfully requests the application be granted at the earliest possible time.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to Dr. Jeffe L. Steinfeld, Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service; Dr. David W. Johnson, Regional Health Director, Region 10, U. S. Public Health Service; the Honorable Robert Kolor, Project Assistant, Public Health Service; and the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.