

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1988

Source

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Legislative  
Resolve No.

59



Relating to the preservation of historical school buildings.

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

WHEREAS there are a number of school buildings in the state that have historical significance, including Whitecliff School in Ketchikan, Capital School in Juneau, Main School in Fairbanks, Akiak Elementary School in Akiak, and Denali School in Anchorage; and

WHEREAS it is in the public interest that these buildings be preserved whenever consistent with the health, safety, and educational interests of the students served by the schools; and

WHEREAS inclusion of a school building in the National Register of Historic Places may provide benefits to the building itself as well as the public as owner of the building; and

WHEREAS a historical school building may sometimes be maintained by a local school district only through financial assistance from the state; and

WHEREAS public assistance for historical schools serves the state as a whole through the encouragement of tourism, the preservation of historic identity and neighborhood vitality in areas of historical interest, and through other public purposes; and

WHEREAS there is presently no comprehensive plan for providing assistance to local school districts to preserve historical school buildings;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct the commissioner of education to report to the First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature, on or before January 31, 1989, with regard to

the following:

(1) which school buildings in the state that were constructed before statehood are still being used for educational purposes;

(2) the condition and anticipated useful life of each of these buildings;

(3) whether the school districts operating these buildings intend to continue operating them as schools;

(4) what steps the state might take to encourage the continued operation of these buildings as schools;

(5) the nature of the benefits, if any, that accrue to the owners of a building that is included in the National Register of Historic Places; and

(6) if a school district is planning to close or has recently closed a historical school building, what compatible public uses the district might make of portions of the building in order to perpetuate the useful life of the building for educational purposes.