

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS MILLER, Pearce, Ellis, Phillips

Introduced: 2/6/98

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to promotion of Kids Voting Alaska programs.

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

3 WHEREAS teaching youth the fundamental democratic principles of voting has
4 proven to be successful in promoting responsible citizenship; and

5 WHEREAS Kids Voting Alaska programs have been effective in teaching students the
6 fundamental principles associated with the exercise of important rights of citizenship and in
7 promoting lifelong good voting practices; and

8 WHEREAS Kids Voting programs encourage discussions in homes about the political
9 process and current issues; and

10 WHEREAS Kids Voting Alaska programs are operated by hundreds of volunteers as
11 nonpartisan, nonprofit volunteer programs funded by business contributions and in-kind
12 services; and

13 WHEREAS Kids Voting programs have been implemented in Alaska and 39 other
14 states; and

15 WHEREAS Kids Voting Alaska programs provided the first municipal election voting
16 experience for youth in the nation, and Alaska is the home of the only community in the
17 nation to conduct a Kids Voting program every year since 1992; and

1 **WHEREAS** Kids Voting Alaska programs for K-12 school curricula teach Alaska
2 students to be responsible citizens by increasing their understanding of democracy and the
3 importance of voting; and

4 **WHEREAS** Kids Voting Alaska programs will be part of the curriculum in at least
5 35 Alaska school districts during the 1998 - 1999 school year; and

6 **WHEREAS** nearly 120,000 students, or 90 percent of all students in Alaska, will have
7 the opportunity to participate in Kids Voting Alaska programs by casting their votes on
8 November 3, 1998; and

9 **WHEREAS** Kids Voting Alaska has been endorsed and is supported by the Alaska
10 Municipal Clerks Association, the Alaska League of Women Voters, the Association of Alaska
11 School Boards, the Alaska Council of School Administrators, and NEA-Alaska; and

12 **WHEREAS** the Alaska Congressional delegation, the Governor, and the Lieutenant
13 Governor endorse this program by serving on the Honorary Board of Kids Voting Alaska;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages all citizens of Alaska
15 to develop Kids Voting programs in their communities; and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages volunteers,
17 teachers, parents, and youth throughout Alaska to participate in every election held in their
18 communities; and be it

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges all citizens of Alaska
20 to join in support of the continued success of Kids Voting Alaska programs and requests their
21 assistance in encouraging volunteers, youth, businesses, organizations, school district
22 administrators, teachers, and parents to become actively involved in Kids Voting Alaska
23 programs to sustain our democracy through development of an involved and informed
24 electorate.

25 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to Kids Voting USA, 398 South Mill Ave.
26 #304, Tempe, Arizona 85281; Alaska Association of School Boards, 316 West 11th, Juneau,
27 Alaska 99801; Carrs Quality Centers, 6411 A Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; National Bank
28 of Alaska, 301 West Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99501; and Alyeska Pipeline
29 Service Co., 1835 South Bragaw, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.