

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 7

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES JOULE, Cissna, Grussendorf, Smalley, Phillips

Introduced: 3/5/99

Referred: Special Order of Business

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to declaring March 1999 as Sobriety Awareness Month.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

3 WHEREAS it is the policy of the State of Alaska, under AS 47.37.010, "to recognize,
4 appreciate, and reinforce the example set by its citizens who lead, believe in, and support a
5 life of sobriety"; and

6 WHEREAS sobriety has been defined to mean "a positive, healthy, and productive
7 way of life, free from the devastating effects of alcohol and drugs" by more than 50 profit and
8 nonprofit organizations, community groups, and student governments throughout the state; and

9 WHEREAS these organizations, community groups, and student governments
10 constitute what is commonly referred to as a growing "sobriety movement"; and

11 WHEREAS the "sobriety movement" is interpreted as "The collective effort on the
12 part of individuals, families and communities, and public and private agencies, affected by,
13 concerned with, and working toward the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, who by
14 example encourage and support others in leading a life of sobriety"; and

15 WHEREAS the benefits of leading a life of sobriety to Alaska's citizens are threefold:

16 (1) improvement in the quality of life and health of individuals, families, and
17 communities;

- 1 (2) reduction in the incidence of alcohol and drug related crimes;
2 (3) reduction in the burden on government by not having to exhaust its
3 resources to pay for the pervasive problems caused by alcohol and drug abuse; and

4 **WHEREAS** March has been designated "Sobriety Awareness Month" by the Alaska
5 State Legislature and Governor Knowles every year since 1995 to recognize, appreciate, and
6 reinforce the example set by citizens who lead, believe in, and support a life of sobriety;

7 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the House of Representatives that the month of March 1999
8 should be proclaimed as Sobriety Awareness Month; and be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Governor Tony Knowles is requested to proclaim the
10 same and have copies of the proclamation sent to all the respective departments and
11 departmental agencies within the administration that fund or have contact with youth, schools,
12 or family services, or that provide rehabilitation or correctional services; and be it

13 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that all Alaska citizens who lead, believe in, or support a
14 life of sobriety are urged to indicate so by wearing a white ribbon of their choosing so that
15 they may be readily recognized and appreciated during Sobriety Awareness Month 1999.