

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Introduced: 3/16/99

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting that the President of the University of Alaska deliver to a joint
2 session of the Alaska State Legislature an annual State of the University report.

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

4 WHEREAS the University of Alaska is one of the significant economic engines of the
5 state, providing an educated workforce for the 21st century; and

6 WHEREAS the University of Alaska is a strong element in the economic base of
7 many Alaska communities with a workforce of 5,300 full and part-time employees and
8 generates another 4,300 jobs in Alaska's support sector, accounting for over \$300,000,000 in
9 personal income; and

10 WHEREAS investment in higher education and job training programs is essential to
11 assure that "Alaska hire" becomes a reality; and

12 WHEREAS 80 percent of the students who earn degrees and certificates from the
13 university stay in Alaska to work and raise families; and

14 WHEREAS a recent study demonstrated that the University of Alaska returns \$4.44
15 to the state for every dollar invested in the university; and

16 WHEREAS inadequate state funding has resulted in reduced course offerings at the

1 University of Alaska and a seven percent loss of enrollment since 1996; and

2 **WHEREAS** the University of Alaska offers fewer programs and less diversity of
3 curriculum than any of the public colleges in the western states; and

4 **WHEREAS** a recent survey revealed that 95 percent of Alaskans believe the
5 University of Alaska is important to the state, and 74 percent believe it is of the highest
6 importance; and

7 **WHEREAS** the legislature annually invites and receives a report from the Chief
8 Justice of the Supreme Court regarding the state of the judiciary; and

9 **WHEREAS** the legislature annually invites and receives a State of the State address
10 and a State of the Budget address from the Governor; and

11 **WHEREAS** the legislature annually invites and receives one or more addresses from
12 Alaska's congressional delegation;

13 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
14 President of the University of Alaska deliver to a joint session of the legislature an annual
15 report on the State of the University of Alaska.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the members of the Board of Regents of
17 the University of Alaska and to the Honorable Mark Hamilton, President of the University of
18 Alaska.