

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 26

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR WARD

Introduced: 5/4/99

Referred: State Affairs, HESS

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to**
2 **education.**

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

4 * **Section 1.** Article VII, sec. 1, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

5 **Section 1. Public Education.** The legislature shall by general law establish
6 and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the State, and may
7 provide for other public educational institutions. Schools and institutions so
8 established shall be free from sectarian control. [NO MONEY SHALL BE PAID
9 FROM PUBLIC FUNDS FOR THE DIRECT BENEFIT OF ANY RELIGIOUS OR
10 OTHER PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.]

11 * **Sec. 2.** Article IX, sec. 6, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended to read:

12 **Section 6. Public Purpose.** No tax shall be levied, or appropriation of public
13 money made, or public property transferred, nor shall the public credit be used, except
14 for a public purpose; **however, nothing in this section shall prevent payment from**
15 **public funds for the direct educational benefit of students as provided by law.**

16 * **Sec. 3.** Article IX, Constitution of the State of Alaska, is amended by adding a new

1 section to read:

2 **Section 18. Education Fund.** (a) The legislature may create an education
3 fund as a separate fund in the state treasury. The principal of the fund consists of land
4 or money appropriated by the legislature. Money in the education fund shall be
5 invested so as to yield competitive market rates to the fund. Income of the fund shall
6 be retained in the fund unless it is appropriated under (b) of this section. Section 7
7 of this article does not apply to deposits made to the fund or to income retained in the
8 fund.

9 (b) Money in the education fund may be appropriated only for public and
10 private elementary and secondary education and for the University of Alaska.

11 * **Sec. 4.** The amendments proposed by this resolution shall be placed before the voters of
12 the state at the next general election in conformity with art. XIII, sec. 1, Constitution of the
13 State of Alaska, and the election laws of the state.