

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES JOULE, Rokeberg

Introduced: 2/21/03

Referred: Rules

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to declaring March 2003 as Sobriety Awareness Month.**

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

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;
9 and

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

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

16 **WHEREAS** the practice and benefits of leading a life of sobriety to Alaska's citizens

1 are threefold:

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

4 (2) reduction in the incidence of alcohol and drug related crimes;

5 (3) reduction in the burden on government by not having to exhaust its
6 resources to pay for the pervasive problems caused by alcohol and drug abuse; and

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

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the month of March 2003 should be proclaimed as Sobriety
11 Awareness Month; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
13 Governor Frank Murkowski to proclaim the same and have copies of the proclamation sent to
14 all the respective departments and departmental agencies within the administration that fund
15 or have contact with youth, schools, family services, or provide rehabilitation or correctional
16 services; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that all Alaska citizens who lead, believe in, or support a
18 life of sobriety indicate so by wearing a white ribbon of their choosing so that they may be
19 readily recognized and appreciated during Sobriety Awareness Month, March 2003.