

(LIMITED RUN FOR ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

**CS FOR SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 5/5/04**  
**Referred: Rules**

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS OLSON, Lincoln, Dyson, French, Ellis, Elton, Davis, Ben Stevens, Guess, Hoffman, Bunde, Cowdery**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Relating to commemoration of Senator Frank R. Ferguson and other distinguished**  
2 **Senators.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:**

4 **WHEREAS** Frank R. Parraq Ferguson served in both the Alaska State House of  
5 Representatives and the Alaska State Senate during a legislative career that spanned 16 years;  
6 and

7 **WHEREAS**, during his political career, his accomplishments were numerous and led  
8 to major improvements in rural Alaska; and

9 **WHEREAS** he was one of the principal legislators establishing a statewide  
10 telecommunications system that included direct telephone communications in all rural  
11 communities; and

12 **WHEREAS** he led the effort to establish the rural educational attendance area  
13 education system that allowed rural children to be educated at home in their own  
14 communities; and

15 **WHEREAS** he helped establish University of Alaska's rural educational system; and

16 **WHEREAS** he led the effort to establish the rural housing assistance loan program,

1 which paved the way for commercial lending in rural Alaska; and

2 **WHEREAS** he helped establish the delivery of state health care and social services  
3 through contracting with the Alaska Native regional nonprofit organizations; and

4 **WHEREAS** he helped establish a village public safety officer program and supported  
5 search and rescue, emergency medical services, and trail staking in rural communities; and

6 **WHEREAS** he helped bring airport lighting to rural village airports so that life-safety  
7 and other essential services could be delivered during the long, dark winter months; and

8 **WHEREAS** he helped establish a lower cost rural energy program that included the  
9 bulk fuel loan program, power cost equalization, and many alternative energy projects; and

10 **WHEREAS** he helped establish the village health aide program and rural clinics; and

11 **WHEREAS** he helped establish revenue sharing for rural villages and unincorporated  
12 municipalities; and

13 **WHEREAS** he helped establish the Kotzebue and Barrow courthouses; and

14 **WHEREAS** he was a principal negotiator in establishing the Alaska permanent fund  
15 and its current earnings distribution system and was a key figure in oil taxation methodology;  
16 and

17 **WHEREAS** he was a principal legislator in marshalling the state's financial  
18 investment in the port and road facilities for the Red Dog Mine and local hire; and

19 **WHEREAS** he was known for being a consummate dealmaker with a keen ability to  
20 close the session during the days when there was no limit on the length of the session; and

21 **WHEREAS** his contributions to this state are many and are attributable to his ability  
22 to bring diverse people together for the common good of the state; and

23 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Senate has had a significant role in the rich history of  
24 the state and the progress of its citizens through the individual and collective achievements of  
25 its members; and

26 **WHEREAS** other senators also merit special recognition for past accomplishments;

27 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Senate that a commemorative panel be  
28 established at a prominent place inside the Capitol for the listing of Senators who are specially  
29 recognized posthumously by resolution of the Alaska State Senate for the value of their  
30 contributions to the Alaska State Legislature and the people of Alaska; and be it

31 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a compilation of the accomplishments of the Senators

- 1 listed on the commemorative panel be kept on file in the Capitol; and be it
- 2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the name of Frank R. Ferguson be displayed on the
- 3 Commemorative Panel of Distinguished Senators.