

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS DAVIS, Wielechowski, Ellis, McGuire, Elton, Thomas, French, Olson, Wilken

REPRESENTATIVES Gara, Holmes, Wilson, Gardner, Cissna

Introduced: 2/7/07

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Finance

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Relating to reauthorization of federal funding for children's health insurance; and**  
2 **encouraging the Governor to support additional funding for and access to children's**  
3 **health insurance.**

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

5 **WHEREAS** the health of our children is of paramount importance to families in the  
6 state; and

7 **WHEREAS** poor child health is a threat to the educational achievement and the social  
8 and psychological well-being of the children in the state; and

9 **WHEREAS** protection of the health of our children is essential to the well-being of  
10 our youngest citizens and the quality of life in the state; and

11 **WHEREAS** the Denali KidCare program authorized under AS 47.07.020(b)(13) in  
12 1997, provides health coverage for approximately 9,000 uninsured children each month and is  
13 an integral part of the arrangements for health benefits for the children in the state; and

14 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the value of the Denali KidCare  
15 program in preserving child wellness, preventing and treating childhood disease, improving

1 health outcomes, and reducing overall health costs; and

2 **WHEREAS** the federal funding available for the Denali KidCare program is  
3 indispensable to providing health benefits for children of modest means;

4 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Alaska Congressional  
5 delegation to work diligently to achieve a timely reauthorization of the State Children's Health  
6 Insurance Program (42 U.S.C. 1397aa - 1397jj, Title XXI of the Social Security Act) to  
7 continue federal medical assistance percentages for the Denali KidCare program; and be it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges Governor Palin to  
9 work with the Alaska Congressional delegation to ensure reauthorization of the State  
10 Children's Health Insurance Program in a timely manner; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims that all  
12 components of state government should work together with educators, health care providers,  
13 social workers, and parents to ensure that all available public and private assistance for  
14 providing health benefits to uninsured children in the state be used to the maximum extent  
15 possible; and be it

16 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges Governor Palin to  
17 work to provide meaningful assistance to help identify and enroll children who qualify for  
18 medical assistance or Denali KidCare.

19 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the  
20 Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
21 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and the Honorable Sarah  
22 Palin, Governor of Alaska.