

**STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE**

2009

Source
HCR 13

**Legislative
Resolve No.**
6



Certifying that the State of Alaska requests and will use any funds provided to the state, a state agency, a municipality, or a political subdivision of the state under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

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

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2009, the United States Congress approved the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5, which President Obama signed four days later; and

WHEREAS the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is intended to help repair, restore, and rebuild the nation's economy, which is suffering from increasing rates of unemployment, home mortgage defaults and foreclosures, and business and personal bankruptcies; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska faces significant revenue shortfalls because of low oil prices that affect all aspects of the state's economy; and

WHEREAS rising unemployment is affecting state, municipal, and community services as more Alaskans face tightening household budgets while looking for work; and

WHEREAS the unemployment rate in Alaska rose to 7.9 percent in January 2009; and

WHEREAS 5,000 fewer Alaskans had jobs in January 2009 than in the previous month; and

WHEREAS Alaskans have lost jobs in the construction, trade, transportation, and hospitality industries; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2009, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development reported that "the U.S. recession and global economic slowdown are affecting the state"; and

WHEREAS the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides funds to states and municipalities for investments in roads, airports, mass transit, energy efficiency, schools, clean water projects, and other infrastructure projects, as well as Medicaid assistance, education, home weatherization, and other public services; and

WHEREAS the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides that, if a governor fails to certify the state's intention to request and use funds provided under the Act within 45 days after its enactment, the state legislature may, by concurrent resolution, certify the state's acceptance of the funds not accepted by the governor; and

WHEREAS the services, programs, and projects standing to benefit from the acceptance and use of federal funds include assistance for job training, housing, medical care, and other services, programs, and projects; and

WHEREAS it is incumbent on the legislature, as the elected representative body for the State of Alaska, to take the initiative at this time of nationwide financial crisis;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature certifies the state's acceptance of all funds that may be available to the state and its agencies, municipalities, and political subdivisions under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and that the state will use the funds to create jobs and promote economic growth; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature certifies its intent to request, accept, and use any funds available to the state under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that are not accepted for use by the governor.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and

President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; the Honorable Sarah Palin, Governor of Alaska; and federal agencies that require a copy of this resolution.