

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13(HSS)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/16/10

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS BUNDE, McGuire, Olson, Davis, Wagoner, Thomas, Ellis, Menard, Egan, Meyer, Stedman, Paskvan, Stevens

REPRESENTATIVE Tuck

A RESOLUTION

1 **Supporting senior caregivers and encouraging the Department of Health and Social**
2 **Services to provide additional education on the effects of aging and the importance of**
3 **senior caregivers.**

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

5 **WHEREAS**, every day, an estimated 23 people in Alaska turn 60; and

6 **WHEREAS** an estimated 52,620 people, or 7.5 percent of the state's population, are
7 65 years of age or older; and

8 **WHEREAS** the population in the state that is 65 years of age or older is expected to
9 increase by 155 percent in the next 20 years to 134,391 in 2030; and

10 **WHEREAS** the population in the state that is 85 years of age or older is projected to
11 reach 12,476 in 2030; and

12 **WHEREAS** approximately 5,700 people who are 65 years of age or older and 7,190
13 people who are 55 years of age or older in the state have Alzheimer's disease or a related
14 disorder, and it is estimated that 14,170 people will have Alzheimer's disease or a related
15 disorder by 2030; and

1 **WHEREAS** 70 percent of people with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder live at
2 home and need assistance with activities of daily living; and

3 **WHEREAS** more than 25 percent of all seniors need some level of assistance with
4 activities of daily living; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in order to address the surging population of seniors who have
6 significant needs for in-home care, the field of senior caregiving will continue to grow; and

7 **WHEREAS** an estimated 14,539 adults in the state provide care to individuals with
8 Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder, which equates to an estimated 12,000,000 hours and
9 an approximated value of \$140,000,000 each year; and

10 **WHEREAS** an estimated 96,800 adults in the state provide care to adult relatives or
11 friends, and an estimated 1,595 adults provide paid senior care to nonrelatives; and

12 **WHEREAS** the longer seniors are able to provide for themselves, the less the public
13 payment systems supported by state and federal governments are burdened;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature

15 (1) recognizes senior caregiving as a profession;

16 (2) supports the private home care industry and the efforts of family caregivers
17 statewide by encouraging individuals to provide care to family, friends, and neighbors;

18 (3) encourages accessible and affordable care for seniors;

19 (4) will review state policies and support current state programs that address
20 the needs of seniors and senior caregivers;

21 (5) encourages the Department of Health and Social Services to continue to
22 provide additional education on the effects of aging and the importance and availability of
23 senior caregivers to meet personal needs.