

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES TARR, Tuck, Kito III, Josephson, Lynn, Gara, Drummond, Millett

SENATORS Gardner, Bishop, McGuire, Egan, Giessel, Fairclough, Hoffman, Stedman, French, Stevens, Olson, Ellis, Wielechowski, Micciche, Dyson, Kelly, Dunleavy

Introduced: 2/26/14

Referred: Health and Social Services

A RESOLUTION1 **Proclaiming April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.**2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **WHEREAS**, in fiscal year 2013, the Department of Health and Social Services,
4 Office of Children's Services, received more than 40,000 reports of harm involving tens of
5 thousands of children; and

6 **WHEREAS**, of the 40,000 reports of harm received in 2013, 5,000 were substantiated
7 reports of child abuse or neglect equating to an average of 13 children a day who were abused
8 or neglected in the state in 2013; and

9 **WHEREAS** more than 2,000 children in the state reside in foster homes; and

10 **WHEREAS** child abuse and neglect leave cross-generational damage resulting in
11 approximately 30 percent of abused or neglected children who will grow up to abuse or
12 neglect their children; and

13 **WHEREAS** 37 percent of all women in prison and 14 percent of all men in prison
14 were abused or neglected as children; and

15 **WHEREAS** the long-term effects of child abuse include improper brain formation, an
16 inability to trust, low self-esteem, and an increased vulnerability to post-traumatic stress

1 disorder, sexually transmitted diseases, heart disease, cancer, and depression; and

2 **WHEREAS** every child deserves a loving family, a safe home, and the opportunity to
3 grow into an upstanding and responsible member of society; and

4 **WHEREAS** we must work together to support the efforts of all those who take
5 children into their homes and hearts because the community as a whole suffers in every case
6 of child abuse and neglect;

7 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims April 2014 to be
8 Child Abuse Prevention Month in the state; and be it

9 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports and encourages
10 the residents of the state to support child abuse prevention and education efforts.