

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 70

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4 TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

5 TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
6 COMMITTEE; CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
7 COMMITTEE; AND THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CON-
8 GRESS FROM ALASKA:

9 Your Memorialist, the House of Representatives of the
10 Legislature of the Territory of Alaska in Twenty-second Regular
11 Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

12 WHEREAS, Section 9 of the Organic Act for the Territory of
13 Alaska provides that no divorce shall be granted by the courts of
14 the Territory, unless the applicant therefor shall have resided
15 two (2) years preceding the application; and

16 WHEREAS, a sizeable portion of the population of the Terri-
17 tory is transient, and

18 WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of the States require
19 only a 6-weeks to one year residence requirement for purposes of
20 divorce, and

21 WHEREAS, there are numerous instances when hardships occur
22 as a result of the stringent two year resident requirement in the
23 Territory of Alaska, and

24 WHEREAS, a six month residence requirement would be more
25 equitable,

26 NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the
27 Territory of Alaska, respectfully requests that Congress amend
28 the Organic Act of the Territory of Alaska by providing for a
29 six months residence requirement for purposes of divorce.