

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS BELTZ, FOSTER,
JONES AND LYNG

SENATE MEMORIAL NO. ~~2~~ 3

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4 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

5 TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

6 TO THE HONORABLE DOUGLAS MCKAY, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; TO
7 GLENN L. EMONS, COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS; AND TO WILLIAM H.
8 OLSEN, DIRECTOR, ALASKA NATIVE SERVICE:

9 Your Memorialist, the Senate of the Legislature of the Terri-
10 tory of Alaska, in Twenty-second Regular Session assembled,
11 respectfully submits that:

12 WHEREAS, it is our responsibility and intent to provide pro-
13 per educational opportunities to all peoples of Alaska, native or
14 non-native, and

15 WHEREAS, the laws of the United States provide that the
16 Alaska Native Service is responsible for the education of the
17 native peoples of the Territory of Alaska, and

18 WHEREAS, these needs are not presently being adequately met
19 for more than 200 native school children in the operation of five
20 old and inadequate school buildings at Kotzebue, Alaska, and

21 WHEREAS, these old and widely separated buildings are costly
22 to operate and to maintain, and

23 WHEREAS, the Territory of Alaska should not be required,
24 through local responsibility, to assume the excessive cost of
25 maintenance and operation of five old and widely separated build-
26 ings, and

27 WHEREAS, no high school is available to any school children
28 in the entire Arctic region, and

29 WHEREAS, Kotzebue, Alaska, acts as a hub for activities of
30 eleven villages of the Arctic area and is showing steadily

1 increasing native population growth as a result of increasing
2 integration of native residents into the Territorial economy, and
3 WHEREAS, it is the birthright of every American citizen to
4 have equal education opportunities,

5 NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Senate of the Legislature
6 of the Territory of Alaska, in Twenty-second Regular Session
7 assembled, requests funds be appropriated for the immediate con-
8 struction of adequate grade and high schools at Kotzebue, Alaska,
9 to meet the needs of the rapidly changing Arctic native culture
10 and economy.
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