

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. KENDALL

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 2

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 TO THE HONORABLE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
6 STATES; THE HONORABLE PHILLIP FLEMING, SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT  
7 OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE; THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND  
8 PUBLIC WELFARE, UNITED STATES SENATE; THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
9 AND LABOR, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES; THE SURGEON GENERAL OF THE  
10 UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE; THE HONORABLE E.L. BARTLETT,  
11 SENATOR FROM ALASKA; THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, SENATOR FROM  
12 ALASKA; THE HONORABLE RALPH RIVERS, CONGRESSMAN FROM ALASKA:

13 Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Alaska,  
14 in First Session assembled, respectfully submits that:

15 WHEREAS, Alaska became a state on January 3, 1959; and

16 WHEREAS, letters of inquiry from persons seeking employment  
17 or business opportunities, and airline reservations indicate there  
18 will be a migration to Alaska unprecedented since the gold rush  
19 days of 1898, with a corresponding explosive increase in the  
20 population of the new state; and

21 WHEREAS, this great influx of people will tax existing  
22 facilities of water supply and sewage disposal far beyond present  
23 capacities; and

24 WHEREAS, the travel necessary for newcomers added to the  
25 traditional propensity for travel of old Alaskans, will facilitate  
26 the spread of communicable diseases and magnify problems of con-  
27 trol far beyond the needs previously acknowledged; and

28 WHEREAS, although great progress has been made over the years  
29 in control of public health problems, much more needs to be done.

1 For example, Alaska's death rate from accidents is still twice  
2 as high as the average of the other states. Infant mortality  
3 rates are four times as high; and Alaska's death rate from  
4 tuberculosis is still ten times the United States average; and

5 WHEREAS, a new state, growing rapidly, with many new people,  
6 needs time to develop the economic base essential for support of  
7 the public health programs to control these problems;

8 NOW THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the  
9 State of Alaska respectfully prays that the United States Public  
10 Health Service, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare,  
11 and the senators and congressman from Alaska, to whom this  
12 Memorial is submitted, lend their united efforts toward obtaining  
13 congressional appropriations sufficient to meet the increasing  
14 public health needs of the growing State of Alaska until its  
15 economy is strong enough to carry its full share of the nation's  
16 public health program.

17 AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

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H.J.M. #2