

1 IN THE HOUSE BY MRS. FISCHER AND MR. HANSEN

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 44

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 TO THE HONORABLE SUMNER G. WHITTIER, ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS
6 AFFAIRS; THE HONORABLE LISTER HILL, CHAIRMAN, SENATE COMMITTEE
7 ON LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE; THE HONORABLE OLIN E. TEAGUE, CHAIR-
8 MAN, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS; THE HONORABLE E. L. BART-
9 LETT AND THE HONORABLE ERNEST GRUENING, SENATORS FROM ALASKA; AND
10 THE HONORABLE RALPH J. RIVERS, REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALASKA:

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

14 WHEREAS, bills have been introduced in both houses of Congress
15 (S. 2201 and H. R. 7910) to restore to veterans in Alaska and
16 Hawaii necessary treatment for non-service-connected disabilities;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the intent of these bills is to make such treatment
19 available to veterans in Alaska and Hawaii as it is in the other
20 states; and

21 WHEREAS, while it is true that hospitalization is available
22 for many veterans, it is not available to those who require emer-
23 gency care and cannot be transported to the location of the hospital
24 - sometimes hundreds of miles distant and accessible only by air;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, the cost of maintaining the program provided for in
27 the proposed bills would be infinitesimal, there being only a few
28 veterans who would not be treated in government installations;
29 and

1 WHEREAS, because there are so few veterans which the proposed
2 bills will affect, and yet their needs are great, it is impossible
3 to understand the opposition of the Veterans Administration;

4 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist urges the passage of S. 2201
5 and H. R. 7910 in order that the nation will fulfill its obliga-
6 tion to veterans on the basis of their need and not on the basis
7 of their accessibility to a veterans hospital.

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