

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MESDAMES FISCHER AND
MCSMITH AND MR. FISHER

2 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 47

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 TO THE HONORABLE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
6 STATES; THE HONORABLE FRED SEATON, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; THE
7 HONORABLE GLENN L. EMMONS, COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS; THE
8 HONORABLE JAMES E. HAWKINS, AREA DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INDIAN
9 AFFAIRS; THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT AND THE HONORABLE ERNEST
10 GRUENING, SENATORS FROM ALASKA; AND THE HONORABLE RALPH J. RIVERS,
11 REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALASKA:

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

15 WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has found that separate but equal
16 educational facilities are unconstitutional, that racial integra-
17 tion is the law of the land, and that such integration should
18 proceed "with all deliberate speed"; and

19 WHEREAS, the facilities, medical and educational, of the
20 Bureau of Indian Affairs in Alaska are in fact often operated as
21 segregated facilities, causing unnecessary and expensive duplica-
22 tion of facilities and staff as well as violating the legal rule
23 of the Supreme Court and the moral rule of our Christian society;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, this segregation is caused by legal and administra-
26 tive technicalities rather than racial bigotry and the legal and
27 administrative technicalities are difficult for the Bureau of
28 Indian Affairs to overcome so long as it continues to operate its
29 schools and medical facilities; and

1 WHEREAS, the state may assume the operation, although not the
2 ownership and expense, of the facilities of the Bureau of Indian
3 Affairs, and may also, being free from the aforesaid legal and
4 administrative technicalities, once it assumes operation, proceed
5 "with all deliberate speed" to integrate those facilities;

6 NOW THEREFORE, Your Memorialist requests the Bureau of Indian
7 Affairs of the Department of the Interior to turn over the opera-
8 tion of such of its facilities as it may as rapidly as it may so
9 that the decision of the Supreme Court and the will of the vast
10 majority of Alaskans may be uniformly observed throughout Alaska.

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