

BY MESSRS. BLODGETT,  
STALKER AND NUSUNGINYA

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the Native Environmental  
6 Health Program.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA IN  
8 SECOND LEGISLATURE, SECOND SESSION ASSEMBLED:

9 WHEREAS, Public Law 86-121 designates the Surgeon General as  
10 legally responsible for certain aspects of Native environmental  
11 health; and

12 WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has appropriated  
13 funds to implement water and sanitation facilities projects which  
14 will benefit Natives residing in Alaska communities; and

15 WHEREAS, this program is intended for the immediate relief  
16 of environmental health problems; and

17 WHEREAS, several hundred Alaska communities are eligible  
18 to participate in this program; and

19 WHEREAS, approximately one hundred of those eligible communi-  
20 ties have made application for community facilities in Alaska;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, it has come to our attention that in one period  
23 60 villages applied for aid under this program, administrators of  
24 this program prepared project proposals for only eight of them,  
25 approved construction for only six of them, and began construction  
26 on only one of the original 60, it being abandoned before comple-  
27 tion; and

28 WHEREAS, it is incredible that so little has been accom-  
29 plished with this program since it began in 1959; and

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1           WHEREAS, the Congress has set aside substantial funds for  
2 these projects for Alaska Natives; and

3           WHEREAS, there is critical need for these projects to al-  
4 leviate threats to public health in Alaska communities; and

5           WHEREAS, it is extremely important that immediate action to  
6 implement the intent of Congress be taken; and

7           WHEREAS, at the present rate of progress this program could  
8 not reach the vast majority of eligible Alaska communities within  
9 100 years, at which time the needs will not exist; and

10           WHEREAS, in terms of public health and in terms of the  
11 intent of the Act it is imperative that this program be acceler-  
12 ated and completed at the earliest possible moment; and

13           WHEREAS, all money for necessary materials and personnel  
14 are available to accomplish the objectives of the program;

15           BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Alaska in  
16 Second Legislature, Second Session assembled that the Secretary  
17 of Health, Education and Welfare and the Surgeon General of the  
18 United States Health Service are urged to review the Native En-  
19 vironmental Health Program in Alaska, and to order its immediate  
20 implementation, because of the emergency that now exists; and be  
21 it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to  
23 the Honorable Abraham Ribicoff, Secretary of Health, Education,  
24 and Welfare; the Honorable Luther L. Terry, Surgeon General, Pub-  
25 lic Health Service; the Honorable Lister Hill, Chairman, Senate  
26 Committee on Labor and Public Welfare; the Honorable Adam C.  
27 Powell, Chairman, House Committee on Education and Labor; the  
28 Honorable E. L. Bartlett, and the Honorable Ernest Gruening,  
29 Senators from Alaska; the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, Representative

1 from Alaska; the Honorable William A. Egan, Governor of Alaska;  
2 and the Honorable Dr. K. Kasuga, Area Medical Officer, Alaska  
3 Native Hospital Service, Anchorage, Alaska.

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