

BY THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH,  
WELFARE AND EDUCATION.

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IN THE SENATE

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 73

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Relating to the use of classroom and  
dormitory space at Seward, Alaska, in  
order to provide secondary education  
and housing for Alaska Native and other  
students.

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

WHEREAS many Native and other students of the Alaska Peninsula and adjacent remote areas of Alaska have long been denied the right and the opportunity to obtain a secondary education, due to the lack of proper and available school buildings and dormitory facilities; and

WHEREAS overall feasibility surveys are currently being considered for the establishment of boarding high school facilities for such students; and

WHEREAS the construction and staffing of schools and dormitory facilities in such remote areas is both expensive and difficult; and

WHEREAS there presently exists available classroom space in the Seward High School, which could easily handle more than fifty additional students; and

WHEREAS there also presently exists the former Seward General Hospital building, owned by the City of Seward, but now vacant, which could easily and economically be converted into a boys' dormitory capable of accommodating fifty or more students; and

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1           WHEREAS a recent June, 1961, "Cost of Food" survey revealed  
2 retail food prices to be cheaper in Seward than in any other city  
3 in Western Alaska; and

4           WHEREAS the City of Seward is easily accessible from all  
5 parts of Alaska by reason of being presently served by air, high-  
6 way, and water transportation; and

7           WHEREAS there already exists in the City of Seward a well-  
8 established culture, consisting of modern elementary and high  
9 school, modern hospital and medical facilities, numerous churches  
10 of eleven different faiths, plus all of the modern conveniences  
11 ordinarily found in a first class city;

12           BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Alaska in  
13 Second Legislature, Second Session assembled, that the Department  
14 of the Interior, through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the  
15 Commissioner of the State Department of Education are urged and  
16 requested to take such steps as are necessary, in joint and coop-  
17 erative action, to make use of the present and existing facilities  
18 at Seward, where practicable and feasible, for the purpose of  
19 housing and educating, on the secondary level, fifty or more stu-  
20 dents from the Alaska Peninsula and adjacent remote areas of  
21 Alaska; and be it

22           FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be mailed to  
23 the Honorable Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior; the  
24 Honorable Philleo Nash, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; the Hon-  
25 orable Robert L. Bennett, Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs;  
26 the Honorable Dr. Theo J. Norby, Commissioner of Education, State  
27 of Alaska; and the members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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29           SJR #73