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Referred: Health,
Welfare and Education

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SENATORS HOPSON,
FOSTER, AND WALSH

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 59

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to harmful radiation in
6 northern Alaska.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 WHEREAS there is a large and continuing buildup of radio-
9 nuclides in the inland Arctic Eskimo, especially in the Eskimos
10 inhabiting the Anaktuvuk Pass area, as well as in the Arctic wild-
11 life and flora; and

12 WHEREAS the amount of radioactive fallout absorbed by the
13 northern Alaska Eskimos has doubled in the last two years; and

14 WHEREAS the average cesium 137 body burden levels of the
15 villagers at Anaktuvuk Pass are now above the acceptable levels
16 for populations as set forth in the radiation protection guide
17 established by the Federal Radiation Council; and

18 WHEREAS the proliferation of atomic weapons has not ceased
19 and the permanent suspension of atmospheric testing is not assured;
20 and

21 WHEREAS the danger to the health and life of Arctic Eskimos
22 will continue unless thorough studies and research are conducted
23 on radioactivity;

24 BE IT RESOLVED that the United States Public Health Service
25 is urgently requested to perform more extensive research on the
26 radioactive contamination of the Arctic food chain and its effect
27 on the Alaska Eskimos; and be it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bureau of Indian Affairs is urged
29 to consider the advisability and feasibility of moving the village

1 at Anaktuvuk Pass to a safer location; and be it

2 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to
3 the Honorable Anthony J. Celebrezze, Secretary, Department of
4 Health, Education, and Welfare; the Honorable Stewart L. Udall,
5 Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Honorable Luther L.
6 Terry, Surgeon General, United States Public Health Service; the
7 Honorable Philleo Nash, Commissioner of Indian Affairs; the
8 Honorable Robert L. Bennett, Area Director, Bureau of Indian
9 Affairs; the Honorable Donald Chadwick, Chief of the Division of
10 Radiological Health, United States Public Health Service; and the
11 Honorable E. L. Bartlett and the Honorable Ernest Gruening, U.S.
12 Senators, and the Honorable Ralph J. Rivers, U.S. Representative,
13 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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