

Introduced: 2/25/70
Referred: Rules

IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE
AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 44

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Relating to the Ability Counts Essay
Contest in high schools.

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

WHEREAS many Alaskans become severely disabled annually as a result of disease, work injuries, accidents, tragedies of the highways, and in defense of their nation; and

WHEREAS, after many months of physical and mental rehabilitation procedures, many of these severely disabled Alaskans are unable to return to their former occupations and to adequately provide for their families or their own sustenance, due to their disabilities; and

WHEREAS many of these disabled Alaskans are determined to hold their self-respect and their proper place in the community and not become wards of the state; and

WHEREAS many of these disabled Alaskans enter vocational rehabilitation training programs, administered by the state Vocational Rehabilitation Division, or by the Veterans Administration, or by private organizations, and in many cases at their own expense in order to be productive and retain their proper place in our society; and

WHEREAS many employers in the state hire handicapped persons who are trained and qualified to contribute to the goals of the employer; and

WHEREAS many private industry employers, with a goal of profit-making and many government employers, with missions to accomplish, are reluctant to hire severely handicapped persons or establish on-the-job work experience for those who have not had a chance to prove their abilities; and

WHEREAS the President's Committee and the Governor's Committee on

1 Employment of the Handicapped have found one of the best ways of acquainting
2 the public, especially employers, of the value of hiring ability is by
3 sponsoring an Ability Counts Essay Contest in the high schools of our nation
4 and state;

5 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth State Legislature requests all high
6 school principals and administrators to bring to the attention of their
7 junior and senior grade high school students the annual Ability Counts Essay
8 Contest, thereby creating a greater interest in rehabilitation and employ-
9 ment among the public, especially employers; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the colleges and universities of Alaska be
11 encouraged to establish scholarships for winners of each year's Ability
12 Counts Contest.

13 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to all the high schools, col-
14 leges and universities in Alaska.

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