

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BLODGETT

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 85

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to priorities for school con-
6 struction in Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS quality education depends in no small part on the existence of
9 adequate physical facilities; and

10 WHEREAS the lack of adequate school facilities is creating an intoler-
11 able educational situation in many of the more remote areas of Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS school plants in these areas are overcrowded, in poor condition
13 and some are unsafe for occupancy because of failure to meet fire and build-
14 ing regulations; and

15 WHEREAS the students at St. Michael and other schools are attending
16 classes in shifts, and at Noorvik a warehouse had to be converted to provide
17 additional classroom space; and

18 WHEREAS the importance of good education to young people in the rural
19 areas cannot be overemphasized if the economic and cultural gaps between
20 urban and rural Alaska are ever to be closed; and

21 WHEREAS sound, basic elementary and secondary education is necessary
22 to the youth of rural Alaska if they are to be allowed to participate mean-
23 ingfully in modern society through post-high school education and through
24 the vocations and professions;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Bureau of
26 Indian Affairs is requested to give priority to school construction in White
27 Mountain, St. Michael, Shungnak, Diomed Island, Buckland, Selawik, Kotzebue
28 and Barrow, to school expansion in Noorvik and Unalakleet, and to the con-
29 struction of two dormitories at Beltz Regional School in Nome.

1 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
2 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Walter J. Hickel,
3 Secretary of the Interior; the Honorable Louis R. Bruce, Commissioner of
4 Indian Affairs; the Honorable Charles A. Richmond, Area Director, Bureau of
5 Indian Affairs; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike
6 Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Howard W. Pollock, U. S. Represen-
7 tative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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