

Introduced: 2/8/71
Referred: Rules

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE AND
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Commending the University of
6 Washington's efforts to develop a
7 regional medical school concept.

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

9 WHEREAS, although in the United States there is one doctor for every
10 650 people, Alaska suffers from an over-all ratio of one doctor to every
11 900 people and the distribution for rural Alaska is one doctor to every
12 1,200 people; and

13 WHEREAS, while Alaska offers unique opportunities for advanced medical
14 research and general practice with a comparatively small population,
15 Alaskan needs are best satisfied through a regional medical program; and

16 WHEREAS because of geographical remoteness it is difficult to attract
17 medical school graduates to the state; and

18 WHEREAS the University of Washington Medical School, with support of
19 The Commonwealth Fund of New York, is sponsoring a program better known as
20 "WAMI" whereby medical students can complete a portion of their curriculum
21 while domiciled in Alaska; and

22 WHEREAS the exposure to Alaska through this program enhances considera-
23 tion of our state as a locale for practice upon graduation, and strengthens
24 the student's appreciation for Alaskan health needs;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh Alaska State Legislature strongly
26 commends the University of Washington Medical School's regional efforts to
27 provide a more equitable distribution of doctors throughout Washington,
28 Alaska, Montana and Idaho, and encourages expansion of the existing program
29 in the future.

1 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Daniel Evans,
2 Governor of the State of Washington; the Honorable John A. Cherberg, Presi-
3 dent of the Washington State Senate; the Honorable Thomas L. Copeland,
4 Speaker of the Washington State House; Dr. Charles Odegard, President of
5 the University of Washington; Dr. Robert Van Citters, Dean of the University
6 of Washington School of Medicine; and to The Commonwealth Fund of New York.

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