

Introduced: 3/4/71
Referred: State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE AND
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 39

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to comprehensive health

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services in the Norton Sound area.

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

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WHEREAS the continued availability of the present services at Maynard

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McDougall Memorial Hospital in Nome, Alaska are vital to the elevation of

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the health status of the residents of the Norton Sound area; and

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WHEREAS Maynard McDougall Memorial Hospital constitutes the only volun-

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tary, community-controlled base for a regional health delivery system in

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rural Alaska; and

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WHEREAS the present contract between Maynard McDougall Memorial Hospital

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and the Alaska Native Health Service does not facilitate long-range planning

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for or financing of personnel and maintenance needs; and

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WHEREAS a prepayment contract would enable other potential contractors

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for care to supplement Alaska Native Health Service reimbursement; and

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WHEREAS prepayment provides incentives to emphasize preventive care

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and economize on expensive health resources; and

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WHEREAS prepayment would eliminate the economic factor from the physi-

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cian's decision on a treatment plan for each patient; and

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WHEREAS prepayment would stabilize the fiscal condition of Maynard

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McDougall Memorial Hospital and allow it to effectively plan for the future;

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and

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WHEREAS a prepaid program would serve as valuable experience for

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development of a state health insurance program or participation in a

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national program;

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Public

1 Health Service is requested to investigate the feasibility of establishing
2 and supporting a prepayment program to provide comprehensive health services
3 to the residents of the Norton Sound area.

4 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to Doctor Emery Johnson,
5 Director, Bureau of Indian Health, United States Public Health Service;
6 Doctor John Lee, Area Director, Indian Health Service, United States Public
7 Health Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike
8 Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative,
9 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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