

Introduced: 4/28/72  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 136

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to official recognition  
6 of the American square dance.

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

8 WHEREAS love of country and professions are enhanced by traditions that  
9 have become a part of our way of life and the customs of its people; and

10 WHEREAS we have distinctive and meaningful symbols of our ideals in  
11 our national flag, our national anthem, and in many cultural endeavors, but  
12 no official designation of our national dance; and

13 WHEREAS the square dance, first historically associated with our people  
14 and recorded in history since 1651, has consistently been the one dance  
15 traditionally used by our people throughout our entire existence and is a  
16 dignified and enjoyable expression of folk dancing and is American in  
17 character; and

18 WHEREAS official recognition after 300 years will enhance the cultural  
19 stature of Alaska and of the United States of America, nationally and inter-  
20 nationally; and

21 WHEREAS such national and international prestige will be in the best  
22 interest of all Americans at all levels of community, state, national and  
23 international cultural affairs; and

24 WHEREAS the American square dance is of the American people's heritage,  
25 and official recognition may be given by the Alaska State Legislature, the  
26 Governor, the United States Congress, and the President of the United States  
27 with community, state, national and international pride;

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that it urges the Congress of  
29 the United States to enact legislation making the American square dance

1 the national American folk dance of the American people and the national  
2 dance of America; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to pro-  
4 claim the week of September beginning with Labor Day and extending for seven  
5 consecutive days, as official Square Dance Week in Alaska.

6 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich,  
U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.