

Introduced: 1/26/72
Referred: Health, Welfare &
Education

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE &
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Supporting S. 955.

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

7 WHEREAS S. 955 currently pending before the United States Congress
8 would authorize the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and
9 Welfare to permit the utilization of Indian Health Service facilities by
10 non-Indians under certain circumstances; and

11 WHEREAS non-Native rural residents of Alaska currently must travel great
12 distances and at great expense to obtain even the most routine health care;
13 and

14 WHEREAS many more badly needed private physicians, dentists and ancil-
15 lary health professionals could be attracted to rural Alaska if existing
16 Indian Health Service facilities were available for their practices; and

17 WHEREAS, at times, existing health facilities in rural Alaska are not
18 utilized to the fullest extent possible because of the existing regulations
19 regarding those facilities; and

20 WHEREAS all Alaskans should have the same rights and privileges regard-
21 ing access to available medical and dental services; and

22 WHEREAS duplication and fragmentation of services and facilities in
23 small communities is not only a financially ruinous proposition, but, to a
24 large degree, results in inferior health care being offered by either system;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the United States Congress
26 is urged to make passage of S. 955 a priority matter during this session of
27 Congress so that all Alaskans residing in rural Alaska may enjoy the best
28 health care available to them.

29 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.

1 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Elliott L. Richardson,
2 Secretary, Department of Health, Education and Welfare; the Honorable Henry M.
3 Jackson, Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; the
4 Honorable Wayne N. Aspinall, Chairman, House Committee on Interior and
5 Insular Affairs; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike
6 Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U.S. Representative,
7 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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