

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

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE HEALTH, WELFARE &
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 49

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Supporting passage of H.R. 2377.

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

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WHEREAS H.R. 2377 is currently pending before the United States Con-

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gress and, if passed, would provide for the assumption of control and

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operation by Indian tribes and communities of certain programs and services

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provided by the federal government; and

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WHEREAS passage of H.R. 2377 would encourage indigenous groups such as

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Alaska's Indians and Eskimos to order and control their own lives; and

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WHEREAS currently, as an example, the Indian Health Service of the

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United States Public Health Service devises and directs health programs for

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rural Natives of Alaska from offices in Anchorage and Washington, D.C.; and

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WHEREAS programs administered from afar are many times not fully respon-

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sive to local needs; and

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WHEREAS an object of H.R. 2377 is to encourage local determination in

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matters of health planning and the provision of health services; and

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WHEREAS local control would enhance awareness of health needs for a

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given area and at the same time provide for local responsibility; and

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WHEREAS Alaska's indigenous groups are increasingly capable by reason

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of education, experience and resources to plan and execute such matters as

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health programs for themselves;

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

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is urged to enact H.R. 2377 at the earliest possible time, making it a

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priority item during the current session of Congress.

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

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Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Elliott L. Richardson,

1 Secretary, Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Dr. Emery Johnson,
2 Director, Indian Health Service; the Honorable Henry M. Jackson, Chairman,
3 Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; the Honorable Wayne N.
4 Aspinall, Chairman, House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; and to
5 the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and
6 the Honorable Nick Begich, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska dele-
7 gation in Congress.

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