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Referred: Health, Welfare &
Education and State Affairs

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY CHANCE

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to an interim study on
6 social insurance.

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

8 WHEREAS there exists a crisis in the social services provided to the
9 poor in Alaska and throughout the nation in terms of scarcity of funding,
10 inept administration and lack of trained personnel; and

11 WHEREAS, in order to meet this crisis, the problems are being studied,
12 public concern is being aroused and new and vigorous attempts are being made
13 to revitalize and provide broad-based social services to meet the needs of
14 the poor; and

15 WHEREAS this worthwhile concentration on the poor unfortunately over-
16 looks the broadest segment of our society, the middle class, which in most
17 cases is forced for financial reasons to regard social services as services
18 available only to the poor or the wealthy; and

19 WHEREAS, when this type of situation evolved in regard to medical ser-
20 vices, private insurers were quick to fill the gap by providing low cost
21 medical insurance which is within the financial reach of most Americans; and

22 WHEREAS, thus far, no private insurers have developed programs to provide
23 massive, low-cost, comprehensive social service insurance in the same manner;
24 and

25 WHEREAS the benefits of a private social insurance system would be
26 enormous and would have a substantial long-term impact on the quality of
27 society in Alaska in that it would (1) solve the problem of shortage of
28 service to the middle class person who is neither a tax-dollar responsibility
29 nor affluent enough to bear the cost of the service he needs; (2) insure

1 good service in qualified, licensed agencies; (3) allow the social service
2 industries to develop refined techniques for offering services; and (4)
3 release some voluntary funds for the necessary research, program development
4 and capital costs that frequently make adequate services impossible;

5 BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct
6 the Department of Administration to conduct a study to determine the feasi-
7 bility of instituting a statewide private or public social insurance program
8 which would cover such things as costs of counseling services to individuals
9 and families, costs of diagnostic testing and evaluation, costs of placing
10 children outside their families in foster families, group homes and specialized
11 institutions, and costs of homemaker and day care services; to determine the
12 requirements of such a statewide social insurance program; to work with
13 Marsh-McLennan, D. K. MacDonald and Co., Inc. on the actuarial aspects and
14 cost requirements of this type of program; and to report its findings to the
15 Second Session of the Eighth Legislature.