

Introduced: 2/13/74
Referred: State Affairs and
Judiciary

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BY
REQUEST OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE
ON NATIVE HOUSING AND SCHOOLS

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 79

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Requesting amendment of the United
6 States Housing Act of 1937 to exempt
7 Alaska from the "utility" require-
8 ments of the "Brook Amendment".

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

10 WHEREAS it is widely acknowledged that housing in many Alaska villages
11 is the poorest in the nation, resulting in widespread sanitation problems,
12 which cause a multitude of health problems; and

13 WHEREAS, given adequate appropriations, housing could be available to
14 many more Alaska Natives under the United States Housing Act of 1937, (1401
15 et seq.) as amended, if they could comply with the "Brook Amendment" of
16 December 24, 1969 (83 Stat. 389) which requires that in order to qualify
17 for housing assistance not more than 25 percent of one's adjusted gross
18 income can go toward rent and utility costs; and

19 WHEREAS strict compliance with these requirements is impossible because,
20 due to obvious weather extremes, utility costs in both urban and remote
21 villages comprise a much greater percentage of the cost of living for a
22 Native than for similar persons in other states; and

23 WHEREAS it is unreasonable that the extraordinary conditions in Alaska
24 do not receive special consideration, when the need for adequate housing is
25 so urgent among its people;

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress of the
27 United States is respectfully requested to amend the United States Housing
28 Act of 1937 (1401 et seq.) so that the state is specifically exempted from
29 those provisions of the "Brook Amendment" of December 24, 1969 which include

1 utility costs as an item to be computed for purposes of the requirement
2 that utility and rent costs not exceed 25 percent of an applicant's adjusted
3 gross income.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
5 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable James T. Lynn, Secretary,
6 Department of Housing and Urban Development; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens
7 and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
8 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29