

Introduced: 2/14/74  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 81

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to H.R. 3153, amending the  
6 Social Security Act.

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

8 WHEREAS there is pending before a conference committee of the Senate  
9 and House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States legislation  
10 making important substantive amendments to the Social Security Act that would  
11 have profound impact upon Alaskans and the administration of social services  
12 in this state; and

13 WHEREAS the bill would permit the states greater flexibility in adminis-  
14 tering social services than heretofore has been possible under restrictive  
15 HEW regulations and would, in effect, convert the present Social Security  
16 Act, as it affects social services, into a \$2.5 billion revenue-sharing  
17 program; and

18 WHEREAS the legislation would assure Alaska social services funding  
19 sufficient to maintain the level of expenditures in fiscal 1974 that were  
20 made in fiscal 1973; and

21 WHEREAS, importantly, the bill would exclude from income for Supple-  
22 mental Security Income (SSI) purposes, the Alaska Longevity Bonus, and this  
23 represents a saving to the state as well as a considerable benefit to  
24 Alaskans who are bonus recipients; and

25 WHEREAS under the bill as presently amended the federal government would  
26 provide 100 per cent federal matching for Medicaid services to all Alaska  
27 Natives, not merely for those residing on or near reservations -- another  
28 significant saving in terms of state costs that broadens the options avail-  
29 able to the state, which, among others, might include expansion of the

1 Medicaid program by widening eligibility to include the medically indigent  
2 and the elimination of general relief medical programs;

3 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature heartily endorses the  
4 efforts of the Alaska congressional delegation to assist in the development  
5 of amendments to the Social Security Act that will benefit all Alaskans and  
6 significantly improve the administration of social services in the state; and  
7 be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED that the congressional delegation is urged to take  
9 whatever steps are required to ensure that the provisions of H.R. 3153 out-  
10 lined above that are particularly beneficial to, and have an important impact  
11 on, Alaska are retained in the final version of the bill that emerges from  
12 the Senate-House conference.

13 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
14 and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,  
15 U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.  
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