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Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services

BY BUCHHOLDT, BRADLEY, DUNCAN,
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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52 *ams*

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to immigration visas for alien
6 children adopted by American citizens.

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

8 WHEREAS 8 U.S.C. sec. 1151(a) and (b) provides that children of an
9 American citizen are not subject to numerical limitations for visa applica-
10 tions; and

11 WHEREAS 8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)(E) defines children, for the purposes of
12 sec. 1151 to include adopted alien children only if the child has been in the
13 custody of, and resided with, the parents for at least two years; and

14 WHEREAS these requirements make it necessary for American citizens to
15 live abroad with adopted alien children for two years before the alien child
16 can be admitted to the United States; and

17 WHEREAS, Americans wishing to adopt alien children must therefore under-
18 take costly and time consuming obligations before they can bring adopted
19 alien children back to the United States; and

20 WHEREAS adoption of alien children by American citizens is a loving and
21 humane gesture which epitomizes the ideal of America as a land where the
22 oppressed and impoverished people of the world may find succor, opportunity
23 and fulfillment; and

24 WHEREAS Congressional policy with respect to immigration visas for
25 adopted alien children contradicts this basic ideal by frustrating the at-
26 tempts of American citizens to adopt alien children;

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States
28 Congress amend 8 U.S.C. sec. 1101(b)(1)(E) to eliminate the two year custody
29 and residency requirements applicable to immigration visas for alien children

1 adopted by American citizens and, thereby, permit adopted alien children to
2 be admitted to the United States immediately upon transfer of custody to the
3 adopting parents.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Gerald R. Ford,
5 President of the United States; the Honorable James O. Eastland, President
6 Pro Tempore of the United States Senate; the Honorable Carl Albert, Speaker
7 of the United States House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted
8 Stevens, and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
9 Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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