

Introduced: 4/16/76
Referred: Health, Education
& Social Services

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 70

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE -- SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the waste disposal exigencies

6 in Barrow and Bethel.

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

8 WHEREAS the sewage and trash disposal systems in Barrow and Bethel are
9 utterly inadequate; and

10 WHEREAS the present system of waste disposal in these communities pre-
11 sents a grave threat to the health of the people living in Barrow and Bethel;
12 and

13 WHEREAS the incidence of hepatitis and other illness caused by inade-
14 quate waste disposal has increased dramatically in recent years; and

15 WHEREAS solutions to the waste disposal problems in Barrow and Bethel
16 are very expensive; and

17 WHEREAS the financial resources in these communities are inadequate for
18 solving the problems; and

19 WHEREAS steps must be taken without delay to alleviate the problems in
20 order to avert the threat of an epidemic of hepatitis and other illness at
21 spring breakup;

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States
23 Public Health Service is respectfully requested to cooperate with local and
24 state officials in working to solve the waste disposal and health crises in
25 Barrow and Bethel and in planning a long-range solution to these problems.

26 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable F. David Mathews,
27 Secretary, Department of Health, Education and Welfare; the Honorable Theodore
28 Cooper, M.D., Acting Assistant Secretary for Health; the Honorable David W.
29 Johnson, M.D., Regional Health Administrator; and to the Honorable Ted

1 Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
2 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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