

Introduced: 1/9/78  
Referred: Health, Education &  
Social Services and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY OSTERBACK

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 84

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to an alcoholism treatment

6 facility on Umnak Island.

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

8 WHEREAS alcoholism is Alaska's number one health problem, compounding  
9 problems in criminal justice, physical and mental health, and social welfare,  
10 and is especially acute in rural areas; and

11 WHEREAS alcoholism is an illness, not a moral weakness, and alcoholics  
12 deserve every opportunity for effective treatment and rehabilitation; and

13 WHEREAS there is a shortage of detoxification and professional treatment  
14 facilities for alcoholics in this state, leaving an unmet need for treatment,  
15 and the state is in a unique position to address this problem; and

16 WHEREAS the goal of alcoholism rehabilitation is to return alcoholics  
17 to being productive members of their home communities, and alcoholism treat-  
18 ment in a rural setting may well be more conducive to the effective rehabili-  
19 tation of alcoholics from rural communities; and

20 WHEREAS Umnak is a beautiful island in the Aleutian Chain, removed from  
21 the pressures and temptations of urban life, and conducive to reflection and  
22 resolve; and

23 WHEREAS Umnak Island and the islands of the Aleutian Chain are the home  
24 of viable wool and beef industries;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
26 the Governor to direct the Department of Health and Social Services to con-  
27 duct a feasibility study for an alcoholism treatment facility located on  
28 Umnak Island and serving voluntary patients from all over the state; and be  
29 it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED that the study also consider the feasibility of sheep  
2 and cattle ranching and associated industries as program components and  
3 sources of income for the facility.  
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