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Referred: Health, Education &
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1 IN THE HOUSE

2  HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Urging implementation of national health
6 insurance.

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

8 WHEREAS every American citizen's rights to life, liberty and the pursuit
9 of happiness entitles him or her to quality health care at a cost he or she
10 can afford; and

11 WHEREAS the cost of health care in the United States is spiraling up at
12 an unprecedented rate, with the total bill for 1976 reaching \$135 billion;
13 and

14 WHEREAS 22 per cent of the American people below the eligible age for
15 Medicare have no basic hospital insurance and nearly 65 per cent have no
16 coverage for visits to the doctor; and

17 WHEREAS the high costs of health care discourage or prevent many
18 Americans from seeking health care until minor health problems become major
19 health crises; and

20 WHEREAS the American people as a whole are spending more than any other
21 nation for health care services, and yet the people of many other nations
22 which spend far less have better general health as indicated by lower infant
23 mortality rates and longer life expectancies; and

24 WHEREAS President Carter and many congressional leaders acknowledged
25 these problems in their campaigns and pledged to address them with comprehen-
26 sive insurance;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges
28 the United States Congress to promptly enact and fund comprehensive national
29 health insurance legislation; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
2 President Carter to promptly sign and implement the resulting comprehensive
3 national health insurance legislation.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,
5 President of the United States; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker
6 of the House of Representatives; the Honorable James O. Eastland, President
7 Pro Tempore of the Senate; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable
8 Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representa-
9 tive, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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