

Introduced: 3/24/77
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services

BY PARR, BRADLEY, CHATTERTON,
COWPER, DANKWORTH, FREEMAN,
MILLER, SPECKING AND SWANSON

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36 *am*

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to a comprehensive study of wel-
6 fare reform by the President of the United
7 States.

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

9 WHEREAS the President of the United States has begun a comprehensive
10 study of welfare reform and requested a report from the Secretary of Health,
11 Education and Welfare by May 1, 1977; and

12 WHEREAS there is a critical need for a comprehensive, well-integrated
13 welfare program to replace the multitudinous, complex and overlapping pro-
14 grams presently existing; and

15 WHEREAS the magnitude of the welfare problem is directly related to the
16 high unemployment rate presently existing; and

17 WHEREAS welfare reform should be undertaken with the idea that no one
18 who can work and can find employment should be supported by public funds; and

19 WHEREAS it is appropriate that the State of Alaska make recommendations
20 as to such reform;

21 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully recommends
22 to the President and the Congress the following desirable features in the
23 reformed welfare system:

24 (1) First reliance shall be placed on stimulating the private
25 economy to provide jobs for all who are able to work.

26 (2) When the private economy is not able to supply all necessary
27 jobs, a system of public works and public service projects shall be insti-
28 tuted offering employment to all who are unable to find work in the private
29 sector.

1 (3) Any person subject to the work requirement who is unwilling to
2 work shall be denied welfare benefits. Exemptions to the work requirement
3 may be granted on the basis of age, mental or physical illness, need to care
4 for children or seriously ill family members, and for specified educational
5 purposes.

6 (4) Welfare benefits for those unable to work shall be adminis-
7 tered through one program with one set of criteria.

8 (5) The public works and public service program, and the welfare
9 program, shall be funded by the federal government but administered by the
10 states.

11 (6) Payment for work on public works and public service projects
12 shall be at approximately 75 per cent of the union scale in the geographic
13 area.

14 (7) Welfare payment rates shall reflect differences in the cost of
15 living in the affected areas and shall be set by the states in conjunction
16 with the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

17 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,
18 President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Secre-
19 tary of Health, Education and Welfare; the Honorable Walter F. Mondale,
20 President of the U. S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker
21 of the U. S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and
22 the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S.
23 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.