

1 IN THE SENATE

BY KERTTULA

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Requesting establishment of a Farmers Home

6 Administration state office in Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS the Farmers Home Administration state office for Alaska, which
9 provides personnel administration, technical assistance, and policy decisions
10 for the local offices, is located in Portland, Oregon; and

11 WHEREAS Alaskan farmers seeking farm ownership loans, farm operating
12 loans, and farm emergency loans have no direct access to the Farmers Home
13 Administration officials who make decisions affecting their loans; and

14 WHEREAS the geographical separation from local operations of the loan
15 specialists, architects, and engineers, who provide technical assistance,
16 causes considerable delays in the processing of many loan applications, and
17 several times each year a technical advisor must travel to Alaska at con-
18 siderable expense; and

19 WHEREAS the Rural Rental Loan Program, the Single-Family Loan Program,
20 and the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program have been shown to be very
21 effective in Alaska, but because of problems in funding, loan processing,
22 government staffing, and especially low public exposure, due in part to the
23 lack of an office having authority to make and interpret policy in the state,
24 these programs have been under-utilized;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature recognizing the needs
26 of Alaskans for more and improved housing and reasonable agricultural financ-
27 ing, respectfully requests the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture to
28 establish a Farmers Home Administration state office in Alaska.

29 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Robert S.

1 Bergland, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture; and to the Honorable
2 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable
3 Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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