

1 IN THE SENATE

BY CROFT

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the adjustment of federal  
6 poverty guidelines for Alaska.

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

8 WHEREAS a variety of federal programs are mandated by statute to serve  
9 America's 25 million poor; and

10 WHEREAS direct benefits to indigent Alaskans are provided through such  
11 programs as Head Start, home winterization, food stamps and a variety of  
12 health, education and welfare authorities; and

13 WHEREAS federal distribution of funds authorized by these programs and  
14 benefits derived by participation in these programs is most often a function  
15 of economic deprivation as established by official United States government  
16 poverty guidelines; and

17 WHEREAS those guidelines are inappropriately low as applied to the State  
18 of Alaska, providing a cost-of-living adjustment of only 25 per cent, while  
19 the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports actual costs for urban areas  
20 to be at least 60 per cent higher in Alaska than in the "lower 48"; and

21 WHEREAS the net effect of the demonstrably inappropriate imposition of  
22 federal guidelines on Alaska is that participation by the needy in programs  
23 is denied, and that program operators are denied equitable federal funding to  
24 provide services;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Office of  
26 Management and Budget of the executive office of the president is urged to  
27 promulgate poverty guidelines which realistically reflect the cost of living  
28 in Alaska with a base adjustment of at least 60 per cent and providing for  
29 annual revisions appropriate to the dynamics of Alaska's economy.

1 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter,  
2 President of the United States; the Honorable James T. McIntyre, Jr.,  
3 Director-Designate, Office of Budget and Management; and to the Honorable Ted  
4 Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don  
5 Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.  
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