

Introduced: 3/19/80
Referred: Judiciary

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
BY REQUEST

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to the federal census.

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

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WHEREAS art. I, sec. 22 of the Alaska Constitution guarantees that the

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right of the people to privacy is recognized, shall not be infringed and

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directs the legislature to implement this section; and

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WHEREAS art. III, sec. 16 of the Alaska Constitution directs that the

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governor shall be responsible for the faithful execution of the laws and

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further directs that the governor and attorney general may, by appropriate

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court action or proceeding brought in the name of the state, enforce com-

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pliance with any constitutional mandate; and

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WHEREAS a citizen's right to privacy is an implicit right guaranteed by

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the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution; and

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WHEREAS the 1980 federal census is currently being conducted throughout

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the state and will be conducted in all urban areas of the state on April 1,

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1980; and

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WHEREAS the legitimate constitutional reasons for the taking of the

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federal census include the apportionment of the House of Representatives in

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Congress, the apportionment of the state legislatures, and the apportionment

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of other taxes, duties and contributions enumerated in the United State

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Constitution, but do not include unnecessary intrusions into the private

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lives of the state's citizens; and

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WHEREAS a significant number of census forms contain questions that

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infringe upon the privacy interests and rights of Alaska citizens; some of

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those rights intruded upon include questions regarding the person's income,

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physical and mental health conditions, reasons for being married more than

1 once, ancestry, and specific questions intruding upon the private rights of
2 women with regard to pregnancies and children;

3 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the governor and
4 attorney general are respectfully requested to protect the private rights of
5 Alaska citizens by bringing an action in the name of the state to enforce
6 compliance with the constitutional rights of all Alaskan citizens to be left
7 alone with regard to their private affairs; and be it

8 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor and attorney general are respectfully
9 requested to inform appropriate officials of the federal government that the
10 state intends to protect and defend the rights of all Alaska citizens to
11 responsibly refuse to answer questions on the federal census that unnecessarily
12 interfere with their private affairs and their right to be left alone.

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