

Offered: 3/21/84
Referred: Rules

Original sponsor: Health, Education and
Social Services Committee

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 13 (HESS)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to a state policy for the

6 developmentally disabled and the sub-

7 stantially handicapped.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

9 WHEREAS the Alaska House of Representatives recognizes the innate

10 dignity, value, and rights of developmentally disabled Alaskans and sub-

11 stantially handicapped Alaskans; and

12 WHEREAS the continued improvement of the quality of life for develop-

13 mentally disabled Alaskans and substantially handicapped Alaskans is a

14 concern of all Alaskans; and

15 WHEREAS the Alaska House of Representatives recognizes the importance

16 of expanding opportunities for the developmentally disabled and the sub-

17 stantially handicapped for independence in employment, education, and

18 community living; and

19 WHEREAS the Alaska House of Representatives recognizes that it is

20 desirable that delivery of social services to the developmentally disabled

21 and to the substantially handicapped be made in the least restrictive

22 manner, consistent with ensuring each individual's health, safety, and

23 growth; and

24 WHEREAS it is important that the active exploration of community-based

25 alternatives to institutionalization continue; and

26 WHEREAS state law has recognized and incorporated a policy of minimal

27 institutionalization since 1978 and a recent decision of the Alaska Supreme

28 Court has recognized this legislative policy; and

29 WHEREAS every year since 1978 the Governor's Council for the

1 Handicapped and Gifted has provided the state a plan that could increase
2 the availability of community-based services that could deinstitutionalize
3 Alaska's developmentally disabled and substantially handicapped popula-
4 tions;

5 BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives respectfully requests
6 the Governor and appropriate departments and agencies to submit to the
7 First Session of the Fourteenth Alaska State Legislature a comprehensive
8 program for the developmentally disabled and the substantially handicapped
9 that will advance the goals expressed in this resolution, after due consid-
10 eration of advice from the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and
11 Gifted.