

Introduced: 6/3/83
Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services

1 IN THE SENATE

BY SACKETT

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Opposing passage of the Health Cost
6 Containment Tax Act of 1983.

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

8 WHEREAS, as part of President Reagan's health incentives reform pro-
9 gram, S. 640 and HR 2574 have been introduced; and

10 WHEREAS these bills would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 to
11 provide for the inclusion of certain employer contributions to health plans
12 in an employee's gross income; and

13 WHEREAS these bills would limit the amount of tax-exempt employer
14 contributions to health plans to \$70 per month for an individual employee
15 and \$175 per month for coverage of an employee and dependents; and

16 WHEREAS these dollar limits would not be adjusted for Alaska to
17 reflect the substantially higher costs of medical and dental services in
18 the state; and

19 WHEREAS there is no evidence that in Alaska these bills would achieve
20 their ostensible goal of indirectly reducing the rate of health care cost
21 increases; and

22 WHEREAS these bills may be simply an attempt to increase federal
23 income tax revenue by \$2.3 billion for fiscal year 1984 and \$4.4 billion
24 for fiscal year 1985;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress is
26 respectfully requested not to pass these bills in their current form; and
27 be it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that Alaska's delegation in Congress is respectfully
29 requested to use its best efforts to defeat passage of these bills or to

1 amend them to provide equitable treatment for Alaskans.

2 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald
3 Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush,
4 Vice-President of the United States and President of the Senate; the
5 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives;
6 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
7 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the
8 Alaska delegation in Congress.