

Introduced: 2/9/84  
Referred: Health, Education  
and Social Services

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9

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.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

8 WHEREAS the Alaska Senate recognizes the innate dignity, value, and  
9 rights of developmentally disabled Alaskans; and

10 WHEREAS the continued improvement of the quality of life for develop-  
11 mentally disabled Alaskans is a concern of all Alaskans; and

12 WHEREAS the Alaska Senate recognizes the importance of expanding  
13 opportunities for the developmentally disabled for independence in employ-  
14 ment, education, and community living; and

15 WHEREAS the Alaska Senate recognizes that it is desirable that deliv-  
16 ery of social services to the developmentally disabled be made in the least  
17 restrictive manner, consistent with ensuring each individual's health,  
18 safety, and growth; and

19 WHEREAS it is important that the active exploration of community-based  
20 alternatives to institutionalization continue; and

21 WHEREAS state law has recognized and incorporated a policy of minimal  
22 institutionalization since 1978 and a recent decision of the Alaska Supreme  
23 Court has recognized this legislative policy; and

24 WHEREAS every year since 1978 the Governor's Council for the Handi-  
25 capped and Gifted has provided the state a plan that could increase the  
26 availability of community-based services that could deinstitutionalize  
27 Alaska's developmentally disabled population;

28 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate respectfully requests the Governor and  
29 appropriate departments and agencies to submit to the first session

1 of the Fourteenth Alaska State Legislature a comprehensive program for the  
2 developmentally disabled that will advance the goals expressed in this  
3 resolution, after due consideration of advice from the Governor's Council  
4 for the Handicapped and Gifted.