

BY LARSON, MENARD AND
SPRINGER

1 IN THE HOUSE

2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the promotion of the

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Iditarod Race.

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

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WHEREAS the Iditarod Race is the longest sled dog race in the world;

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and

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WHEREAS the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race was conceived of and organi-

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zed by Joe Redington, Jr., of Knik; and

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WHEREAS the first race began in Anchorage on March 3, 1973, and ended

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at Nome on April 3, 1973; and

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WHEREAS the race has been run every year since 1973 and in 1976 was

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declared Alaska's official sled dog race; and

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WHEREAS in 1976, Congress declared the Iditarod as a National Historic

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Trail; and

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WHEREAS the Iditarod follows the old dog team mail route blazed in

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1910 from Knik to Nome, crossing two mountain ranges, following the Yukon

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River for about 150 miles, going through several bush villages, and cross-

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ing the pack ice of Norton Sound; and

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WHEREAS the Iditarod Race has become a major international racing

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challenge; and

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WHEREAS the Iditarod has significance beyond the race itself because

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it commemorates a historic event: the successful effort of Leonhard

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Seppala to deliver 300,000 units of life-saving diphtheria serum to

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epidemic-threatened Nome; and

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WHEREAS the commemoration of the historic event promotes tourism by

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portraying a positive image of Alaska throughout the world;

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
2 respectfully requested to encourage the division of tourism in the Depart-
3 ment of Commerce and Economic Development to feature the Iditarod Race in
4 its promotion of the State; and be it

5 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Governor is also requested to encourage the
6 division of tourism to allocate more resources to the promotion of the
7 Iditarod Race.