

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY DONLEY, GRUENBERG, BOYER,
HOFFMAN, KOPONEN, SPRINGER
AND GRUSSENDORF

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 19

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to resident hire on federal

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projects in the state.

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

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WHEREAS because of its unique climate and its distance from the con-

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tiguous states, Alaska has historically suffered from unique social, geo-

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graphic, and economic conditions that result in an unstable economy; and

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WHEREAS the promotion of a resident-based workforce is good local,

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state, and federal public policy; and

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WHEREAS the rate of unemployment among residents of the state is one

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of the highest in the nation; and

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WHEREAS the unstable economy is a hardship on the residents of the

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state and is aggravated by the large numbers of seasonal and transient

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workers; and

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WHEREAS construction projects funded wholly or partially with federal

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funds have traditionally accounted for a substantial percentage of the

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available employment in the state; and

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WHEREAS federal construction spending in Alaska has a significantly

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greater effect on the state's economy than is the case in most other

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states; and

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WHEREAS it is inherently fair that unemployed local residents in areas

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of high unemployment have first chance at being hired for jobs created by

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government spending in those areas; and

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WHEREAS, for constitutional reasons, many aspects of laws requiring

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local hire for government funded projects are better addressed by federal

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legislation than by state legislation;

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that members of the
2 Alaska delegation in Congress are requested to introduce and seek the
3 passage of federal legislation giving an employment preference to unem-
4 ployed qualified state residents on all construction projects in the state
5 that are wholly or partially funded with federal funds.

6 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens
7 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
8 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.