

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY WALLIS

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 58

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the return of human remains

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from the Smithsonian Institution.

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

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WHEREAS the legislature recognizes the equality of all human beings on

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this earth and their right to be treated with dignity and respect; and

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WHEREAS this respect is extended to human remains after death; and

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WHEREAS in the last century the Smithsonian Institution collected

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human remains throughout Alaska, particularly in Native villages along the

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interior rivers and Northwest Coast; and

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WHEREAS the display and storage of these human remains in the Smith-

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sonian Institution is inappropriate and manifests lack of respect for the

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remains; and

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WHEREAS the return of these human remains to relatives or to the sites

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of origin would be an appropriate act of restitution;

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly requests the

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Smithsonian Institution to return human remains taken from Alaska in a

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respectful and timely manner.

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COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald

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Reagan, President of the United States; Mrs. Reagan, First Lady of the

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United States; the Honorable Robert McCormick Adams, Secretary of the

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Smithsonian Institution; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable

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Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Repre-

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sentative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.