

BY ELLIS, DONLEY, ULMER,
GRUENBERG, HUDSON, BROWN,
DAVIDSON AND POURCHOT

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 65

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to runaway, homeless, and
6 missing youth.

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

8 WHEREAS the problem of runaway, homeless, and missing youth continues
9 to be a great concern in Alaska and the nation; and

10 WHEREAS runaway behavior has been associated with child physical and
11 sexual abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, problems in school, mental and emo-
12 tional problems, juvenile delinquency, prostitution and other child exploi-
13 tation, suicide, and other problems of troubled youth; and

14 WHEREAS urban statistics show that the runaway rate in Alaska is
15 several times the national average; and

16 WHEREAS the people of Alaska have risen to the challenge posed by
17 runaway youth and the need to reunite them with their families through the
18 work of the Anchorage Runaway and Homeless Youth Task Force, the Governor's
19 Interim Commission on Children and Youth, various runaway programs and
20 studies, and through legislation; and

21 WHEREAS adequate funding is critical to the programs and services that
22 combat the problems of runaway youth; and

23 WHEREAS the federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, (42 U.S.C.-
24 5701-5751) authorizes the federal government to make grants to states,
25 localities, and nonprofit agencies for services related to runaway,
26 homeless, and missing youth; and

27 WHEREAS the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, originally authorized in
28 1974, is up for Congressional reauthorization this year;

29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United

1 States Congress to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act and to
2 make the appropriations necessary to adequately combat the problem of
3 runaway, homeless, and missing youth in our society.

4 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Christopher
5 J. Dodd, Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Children, Family, Drugs,
6 and Alcoholism; the Honorable Dale E. Kildee, Chairman of the House
7 Subcommittee on Human Resources; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
8 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
9 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.