

Introduced: 2/16/88
Referred: Health, Education and
Social Services

5-1991A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BINKLEY

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 52

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to drug education programs.

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

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WHEREAS young Alaskans between the ages of 12 and 17 have an experi-
8 mentation rate with marijuana that is twice the national average, and with
9 cocaine that is nearly three times the national average; and

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WHEREAS, according to the Alaska Medicine magazine, 71.7 percent of
11 Alaska's young people between the ages of 12 and 17 will use alcohol; and

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WHEREAS in fiscal year 1988 the State of Alaska expended \$13,456,500
13 for alcohol and drug related programs, an amount that does not include
14 money spent for programs that are not technically alcohol or drug related
15 but are certainly affected by alcohol and drug use in our state; and

16

WHEREAS during the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature, no fewer than
17 35 pieces of legislation have been introduced that deal with alcohol alone,
18 but this legislation is largely reactionary and will not in and of itself
19 solve the problems of alcohol abuse in Alaskan society; and

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WHEREAS alcohol and drug education is generally offered in high
21 schools throughout the state but since the average age at which alcohol and
22 drug experimentation starts is 11 - 12 years of age, many young people not
23 yet high school age have already developed problems related to chemical
24 abuse;

25

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
26 that each of the 55 school districts in the state develop alcohol and drug
27 education programs for their students in the higher grades of elementary
28 school that are tailored to meet the particular problems of the area; and
29 be it

1 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the legislature intends, and the Governor is
2 respectfully requested to direct the Department of Education, to work with
3 local school districts by responding to requests for information and any
4 other assistance in order to develop alcohol and drug education programs.
5 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the State Board of Educa-
6 tion and to the School Board of each local school district.