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Referred: Health, Education and  
Social Services

5-0582A

1 IN THE SENATE

BY KELLY

2 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 10

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Establishing a Senate Special Committee  
6 on AIDS Prevention.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

8 WHEREAS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a worldwide  
9 epidemic that has killed thousands of people, including many young, produc-  
10 tive Americans; and

11 WHEREAS it has been predicted that by 1991, 270,000 cases of AIDS will  
12 have occurred in the United States, resulting in 179,000 deaths; and

13 WHEREAS the AIDS epidemic is now one of the top priorities of the U.S.  
14 Department of Health and Human Services; and

15 WHEREAS U.S. Senator Ted Stevens has proposed legislation to form a  
16 National Commission on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome; and

17 WHEREAS, according to the Surgeon General of the United States, the  
18 AIDS virus is presently carried by an estimated 1,500,000 men and women  
19 throughout the United States, from every state in the union, with the  
20 number of Americans acquiring the AIDS virus doubling every nine months;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS there is presently no known cure for AIDS and no vaccine to  
23 prevent AIDS; and

24 WHEREAS, although the Surgeon General has stated that AIDS cannot be  
25 transmitted through casual social contact or in the same manner as a common  
26 cold, chicken pox, or by mosquitoes or pets, the Surgeon General has stated  
27 that AIDS can be transmitted through heterosexual or homosexual sexual  
28 contact with a carrier of the virus and by the use of nonsterile, infected  
29 needles and syringes; and

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1       WHEREAS, while significant medical progress has been made in the fight  
2 against AIDS, it nonetheless remains uncertain how long it will take to  
3 develop and safely test a preventive vaccine and cure; and

4       WHEREAS, although AIDS is a life-threatening disease and a major  
5 public health hazard, AIDS is preventable through personal understanding of  
6 the threat;

7       BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate that a Senate Special Committee on AIDS  
8 Prevention is established to recommend a course of action to help prevent  
9 the spread of AIDS in Alaska, while preserving our humanity and decency;  
10 and be it

11       FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate shall determine the  
12 number of senators to be members of the committee, and shall appoint the  
13 members and designate a member to chair the committee; and be it

14       FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate Special Committee on AIDS Prevention  
15 may meet during and between sessions of the legislature, and is terminated  
16 on the convening of the First Session of the Sixteenth Legislature.