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1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 19

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Establishing a Senate Special Committee
6 on Suicide Prevention.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

8 WHEREAS an estimated 29,000 persons committed suicide in the United
9 States in 1984; and

10 WHEREAS in 1983 and 1984 there were 195 legally determined suicides in
11 Alaska; and

12 WHEREAS the suicide rate in the state is 50 percent higher than the
13 national rate; and

14 WHEREAS the suicide rate among Alaska Natives is four times the na-
15 tional rate; and

16 WHEREAS the suicide rate among Alaskans aged 15 to 24 is more than
17 three times the national rate for that age group; and

18 WHEREAS the suicide rate among Alaska Native men aged 15 to 24 is more
19 than 14 times the national rate for that age group; and

20 WHEREAS suicide is the second leading cause of death among persons
21 aged 15 to 24 in the United States;

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate that a Senate Special Committee on
23 Suicide Prevention is established consisting of five members of the Senate
24 appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom shall be named by the
25 president to chair the committee; and be it

26 FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall study the problem of suicide
27 in the state, especially among Alaska Natives and among young persons, and
28 shall report its findings and may make recommendations to the Senate; and
29 be it

1 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the committee may meet during and between
2 sessions of the legislature, and shall terminate upon the convening of the
3 **First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature.**