

Offered: 5/4/87  
Referred: Rules

5-1016B

Original sponsors: Hensley, Rodey,  
Binkley, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
2 , CS FOR SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 19 (Finance)  
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 Sui-  
23 cide 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  
27 (1) investigate the problem of suicide in the state, especially  
28 among Alaska Natives and among young persons;  
29 (2) review programs that have shown success in the prevention

1 and treatment of suicide;

2 (3) report its findings and make recommendations to the Senate;

3 and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee may meet during and between ses-  
5 sions of the legislature, and shall terminate upon the convening of the  
6 First Session of the Sixteenth Alaska State Legislature.