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Referred: Health, Education & Social Services

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1 IN THE SENATE

BY FISCHER

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 27

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to the consolidation of the

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State Commission for Human Rights, the

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Office of Equal Employment Opportunity,

8

and the Alaska Women's Commission.

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

10 WHEREAS the Legislature established the State Commission for Human
11 Rights, the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, and the Alaska Women's
12 Commission in order to heighten awareness of the unique problems experi-
13 enced by certain individuals and groups; and

14 WHEREAS the State Commission for Human Rights, the Office of Equal
15 Employment Opportunity, and the Alaska Women's Commission have been instru-
16 mental in improving the social and economic conditions for all Alaskans
17 through education, research, and proposals for legislation; and

18 WHEREAS the downturn in the state's revenue makes it imperative that
19 measures be taken to ensure fiscal efficiency in administration of state
20 programs while minimizing the effect on services provided to the people of
21 the state; and

22 WHEREAS the goals, objectives, and activities of the State Commission
23 for Human Rights, the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, and the
24 Alaska Women's Commission are similar; and

25 WHEREAS the House of Representatives has recognized these similarities
26 by including legislative intent language in its version of the fiscal year
27 1988 operating budget that recommends the consolidation of these three
28 organizations and the streamlining of their functions; and

29 WHEREAS under AS 44.66.010(b), which governs Alaska's "sunset"

1 procedures, a state board or commission has one year to conclude its activ-
2 ities;

3 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate finds that the work of the State Com-
4 mission for Human Rights, the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, and
5 the Alaska Women's Commission should be continued; and be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate respectfully requests the Governor to
7 implement a plan that will consolidate the State Commission for Human
8 Rights, the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, and the Alaska Women's
9 Commission into a single organization that is suitably named to reflect its
10 responsibilities; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate respectfully requests the Governor to
12 combine the staffs of these three organizations under the supervision of
13 one director; and be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED that under AS 44.66.010(b) the Alaska Women's Com-
15 mission will continue during which time it will have the opportunity to
16 actively participate in the consolidation thereby ensuring representation
17 of all groups and individuals currently served by the three independent
18 commissions and staff.