

BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to a special interagency coor-

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inating committee on schools.

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

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WHEREAS there are no root causes of inadequate school performance

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greater than environmental and social handicaps, especially those that are

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the result of chronic poverty; and

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WHEREAS environmental and social handicaps include chronic poverty,

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households where parents are unable to provide parental guidance, substance

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abuse, especially abuse of alcohol and illegal drugs, unplanned or unwanted

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teen pregnancy, and trauma from exposure to violent behavior, especially

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child abuse; and

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WHEREAS a high incidence of school problems associated with these

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handicaps have been clearly identified; and

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WHEREAS without a coordinated, unified, long-term, and sustained

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effort on the part of the various people and agencies charged with the

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responsibility to provide health, social, legal, educational, and voca-

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tional services, there is little likelihood that these school problems will

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be overcome; and

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WHEREAS the knowledge to address these problems is available; and

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WHEREAS no single governmental agency possesses all the resources and

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all the professional knowledge to address these problems, especially when

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considering the many regions and multicultural populations in the state;

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and

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WHEREAS early intervention among children with environmental and

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social handicaps makes a difference when intervention is developed and

1 carried out as a cooperative effort among the various people, agencies, and
2 disciplines concerned with child care and schooling; and

3 WHEREAS a positive correlation has been found between success in
4 schools and the extent to which local populations and school personnel are
5 involved in the planning and executing of school programs;

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor is
7 respectfully requested to establish a special interagency coordinating
8 committee consisting of the commissioners from the Departments of Educa-
9 tion, Health and Social Services, Community and Regional Affairs, and
10 Labor; and a dean from the University of Alaska who is responsible for
11 teacher training, selected by the governor; and be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED that the special interagency coordinating committee
13 is requested to identify the most critical social and health barriers to
14 learning, to establish plans to overcome them, to be responsible for imple-
15 mentation of the plans, and to issue an annual report; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the special interagency coordinating committee
17 is requested to issue its first annual report by the 15th day of the First
18 Session of the Seventeenth Alaska State Legislature.