

Original sponsor(s): REP. ULMER, Koponen, Zawacki, M.Davis, Brown, Kubina;
SEN. Kelly, Sturgulewski, Pourchot, Binkley, Fahrenkamp, Fischer, Uehling,
Faiks

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 64 (State Affairs)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to the placement of a geograph-
6 ically correct Alaska on national maps.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS Alaska has been a state in the United States for the past 31
9 years and is part of the continental United States; and
10 WHEREAS on maps of the United States, Alaska is often placed in a box
11 south of California and is sometimes completely left off the map; and
12 WHEREAS Alaska encompasses an area of 365,000,000 acres, one-fifth of
13 the total land area of the continental United States, and is the largest
14 state in the United States; and
15 WHEREAS the mismapping and nonmapping of Alaska is found even today in
16 the pages of Newsweek, Time, the New York Times, and the Los Angeles Times,
17 as well as many other newspapers and magazines, and is even found in the
18 art department of the graphics division of the Associated Press and in the
19 map department of United Press International; and
20 WHEREAS most school geography textbooks, wall maps, and road maps
21 still place Alaska in a box south of California; and
22 WHEREAS some maps of Alaska do not represent the Aleutian chain in a
23 geographically correct manner; and
24 WHEREAS geographic illiteracy has become a serious concern of the
25 American people and has been identified as a priority in educational pro-
26 gram development; and
27 WHEREAS the national newspaper, USA Today, reconsidered its map policy
28 for Alaska and now places Alaska in the northwest corner of all of its maps
29 of the United States;

1 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
2 that all major United States magazines, newspapers, textbook publishers,
3 and map publishers, follow the lead of USA Today in placing Alaska in its
4 correct geographical position on maps of the United States, in the north-
5 west corner, and that all geographical attributes of Alaska be correct in
6 size and location and either have the correct proportions or be accompanied
7 by a scale indicating the proportions.

8 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the editors of all major
9 United States magazines, newspapers, textbook publishers, and map pub-
10 lishers.