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1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83 am

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Urging a change in the allocation for-

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mula for federal grants for alcohol,

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drug abuse, and mental health services.

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

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WHEREAS there is a substantial need for prevention and treatment

10 programs related to alcoholism, drug abuse, and mental health in Alaska;

11 and

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WHEREAS the Congress has recently approved increased funding for

13 federal block grants for alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health services

14 (ADMS); and

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WHEREAS, under the current ADMS allocation formula, Alaska and six

16 other states would receive no increase in ADMS funding because the formula

17 overemphasizes factors like urban population and amount of total taxable

18 resources while giving no consideration to other factors like the high cost

19 of providing services in particular geographic settings; and

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WHEREAS, according to a 1988 survey by Dr. Bernard Segal of the Uni-

21 versity of Alaska, Anchorage, substance abuse among Alaska high school

22 students exceeds the national average and is continuing to increase; and

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WHEREAS a truly national effort to combat the effects of alcohol and

24 drug abuse should include increased funding for every state in the nation;

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Alaska con-

26 gressional delegation is urged to actively seek and support changes in the

27 formula for allocating ADMS block grants so that every state receives an

28 increase in funding for substance abuse prevention and treatment programs

29 in this area of vital importance to the future of our state and nation.

1 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens
2 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
3 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.