

Original sponsor(s): SEN. BINKLEY, Kelly, Szymanski, Fischer, Coghill,
Eliason, Frank, Jones, Uehling, Faiks, Duncan, Pourchot, Halford, Rodey,
Pearce, Zharoff, Sturgulewski

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE HESS COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19 (HESS)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Relating to alcohol and drug education
6 programs.
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
8 WHEREAS residents of the state between the ages of 12 and 17 have an
9 experimentation rate with marijuana that is twice the national average and
10 with cocaine that is nearly three times the national average; and
11 WHEREAS, according to the Alaska Medicine magazine, 72 percent of
12 Alaska's young people between the ages of 12 and 17 will use alcohol; and
13 WHEREAS, in the fiscal year 1989 budget, the State of Alaska appropri-
14 ated nearly \$17,000,000 for alcohol and drug related programs, an amount
15 that does not include money spent for programs that are not technically
16 alcohol or drug related but are affected by alcohol and drug abuse in the
17 state; and
18 WHEREAS the amount spent for alcohol and drug programs increases
19 yearly and is more than \$3,000,000 above the amount spent in fiscal year
20 1988; and
21 WHEREAS alcohol and drug education is generally offered in high
22 schools throughout the state, but since the average age at which alcohol
23 and drug experimentation starts is 11 - 12 years of age, many young people
24 not yet high school age have already developed problems related to chemical
25 abuse; and
26 WHEREAS research has shown that a comprehensive educational program
27 that takes into account the reality of young people's lifestyles may be the
28 only effective prevention effort;
29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

1 that each of the 55 school districts in the state develop alcohol and drug
2 education programs for their students in the higher grades of elementary
3 school and that these programs be tailored to meet the most prevalent
4 problems causing demonstrated harm to students of the district; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that alcohol and drug refusal skills should be made a
6 part of each district's educational program; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is respectfully requested to direct
8 the Department of Health and Social Services, and the Department of Educa-
9 tion, to work with local school districts by responding to requests for
10 information and other assistance in order to develop alcohol and drug
11 education programs for younger students.

12 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Myra M.
13 Munson, commissioner of health and social services; the Honorable William
14 G. Demmert, commissioner of education; the members of the State Board of
15 Education, and to each school board of a school district or rural educa-
16 tional attendance area.