

Introduced: 1/9/90
Referred: Senate Spec. Com. on Sr. Citizens
and Pioneers and State Affairs

6-1602A

BY SEN. POURCHOT, Kelly, Duncan, Uehling, Sturgulewski, Szymanski, Halford,
Faiks, Rodey, Fahrenkamp, Frank, Jones, Pearce

1 IN THE SENATE

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to an Alaska Conference on

6

Aging and a national White House Confer-

7

ence on Aging in 1991.

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

9 WHEREAS President Bush has called for a national White House Confer-
10 ence on Aging in 1991 under the authority vested in him by the Older Ameri-
11 cans Act Amendments of 1987; and

12 WHEREAS the purpose of the national conference will be to develop
13 recommendations for additional research and action in the field of aging to
14 further the policy of the Congress set out in the Older Americans Act
15 Amendments of 1987:

16 It is the policy of the Congress that

17 (1) the Federal Government should work jointly
18 with the States and their citizens to develop recommendations
19 and plans of action to meet the challenges and needs of older
20 individuals, . . . and

21 (2) in developing programs for the aging pursuant to
22 this section, emphasis should be directed toward individual,
23 private, and public initiatives and resources intended to enhance
24 the economic security and self-sufficiency of elder Americans.

25 P.L. 100 - 175, sec. 201(b); and

26 WHEREAS the legislature strongly agrees with the stated policy of the
27 Congress and adopts it as the policy for the state; and

28 WHEREAS the legislature also subscribes to the findings of the
29 Congress set out in the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987, which can

1 be summarized as acknowledging the great value of older Americans and their
2 talents, the need to assure all older Americans access to affordable health
3 care, comprehensive long-term care, suitable housing, opportunities for
4 continued productivity and employment, and the need to foster the fulfill-
5 ment and dignity of older Americans; and

6 WHEREAS the state will be called upon to send delegates from among its
7 citizens to the national 1991 White House Conference on Aging who will
8 represent the views and needs of all older Alaskans and of all Alaskans
9 interested in aging;

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that a 1991 Alaska
11 Conference on Aging be convened before the 1991 White House Conference on
12 Aging to allow older Alaskans and other interested citizens and public
13 officials to meet and discuss issues related to aging in the state and in
14 the nation, and to choose delegates to represent the state at the White
15 House conference; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to direct
17 the Older Alaskans Commission, created by the legislature in 1981 and the
18 state's designated State Unit on Aging for all purposes under the Older
19 Americans Act, to plan and carry out the 1991 Alaska Conference on Aging
20 and to coordinate and cooperate, as requested, with the federal Administra-
21 tion on Aging in planning for and assisting with the 1991 White House
22 Conference on Aging; and be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should coordinate
24 its planning for both the state and the White House conference with all
25 local and state organizations whose members are older Alaskans or whose
26 purpose is to serve older Alaskans, including organizations for retirees
27 who may be younger than age 60, all local senior citizen commissions,
28 regional conferences of Native Alaskan elders, and with all government
29 agencies serving older Alaskans; and be it

1 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should develop a
2 method of choosing voting delegates to both the state and the national
3 conferences from among major senior or retiree organizations and from local
4 or regional senior groups, so that, as far as possible, the interests of
5 all Alaskans on the issues of aging may be fairly represented at the state
6 and the White House conferences; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should offer
8 planning assistance and information to local or regional areas that may
9 choose to conduct local aging forums before the statewide Alaska Conference
10 on Aging; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should appoint an
12 ad hoc steering committee, consisting of commission members and others, to
13 assist the commission in the planning, coordination, and conduct of the
14 Alaska Conference on Aging, and the members of the steering committee
15 should serve without compensation, but should be entitled to per diem and
16 travel expenses authorized by law for commission members; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should hire tempo-
18 rary or project staff and enter into those contracts necessary to carry out
19 the intent of this resolution, including contracts for group accommoda-
20 tions, transportation, and meal services for delegates to the Alaska Con-
21 ference on Aging, or for stipends for delegates to be awarded on an equita-
22 ble basis as needed to ensure reasonable affordability and access of all
23 chosen delegates to the state conference; and be it

24 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission submit a report of
25 the activities and findings of the Alaska Conference on Aging, of the
26 activities of the Alaska delegation to the White House conference, and of
27 any resulting proposals for legislation to the governor and the legislature
28 by March 1, 1992.