

BY SEN. BINKLEY, Zharoff, Coghill, Pourchot, Eliason, Faiks, Jones,
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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to medical education about

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fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol

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effects.

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

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WHEREAS fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects, which are
10 birth defects related to alcohol consumption by pregnant women, are pre-
11 ventable if pregnant women and women who plan to become pregnant abstain
12 from alcohol; and

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WHEREAS educational sources available to women that are designed to
14 increase their awareness of the harm that alcohol consumption during preg-
15 nancy can have on their children usually include a suggestion that they
16 consult their physicians or other health care professionals about this
17 subject; and

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WHEREAS alcohol-related birth defects have only recently been dis-
19 covered to be a major health problem, and previous medical education relat-
20 ing to these birth defects may have been inadequate when many of today's
21 physicians and nurses received their medical training; and

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WHEREAS new discoveries continue to be made in the area of fetal
23 alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects, and these discoveries could
24 significantly affect the advice that physicians and nurses give their
25 patients who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy;

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
27 the Alaska State Medical Association and the Alaska Nurses Association to
28 investigate the possibility of requiring appropriate continuing medical
29 education courses that will keep their respective practitioners aware of

1 the latest developments concerning the causes and effects of alcohol-
2 related birth defects; and be it

3 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Medical Association and the
4 Alaska Nurses Association should contact the organizations they have ac-
5 credited to provide continuing education in their respective fields in
6 order to encourage and assist them in the development of appropriate con-
7 tinuing education courses about alcohol-related birth defects and their
8 prevention.

9 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the principal office of the
10 Alaska State Medical Association and the principal office of the Alaska
11 Nurses Association.