

Persons who, while in such service were separated therefrom under circumstances amounting to a dishonorable discharge, and who have not been subsequently restored to honorable status, are not entitled to grant hereunder.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed the House, April 2, 1931.

Passed the Senate, April 11, 1931.

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#### HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 4.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE HONORABLE RAY LYMAN WILBUR, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS OF THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE HONORABLE JAMES WICKERSHAM DELEGATE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA:

Your memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Tenth Regular Session assembled, does most earnestly and respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, the population of the Territory of Alaska consists of approximately 60,000 inhabitants, equally divided between white people and peoples of the Indian and mixed races; and,

WHEREAS, the said Indian population of the Territory of Alaska comprises approximately one seventh of that portion of the total Indian population of the United States treated as wards of the United States Government; and,

WHEREAS, the Government of the United States has for more than one hundred years followed the policy of federal aid to aboriginal peoples through reservations, grants of land, assistance in the purchase of farm machinery and equipment, maintenance of schools and hospitals, aid to the poor and needy, and through liberal federal appropriations for other forms of relief; and,

WHEREAS, the recent Interior Department Appropriation Bill provides for an expenditure of a sum in excess of twenty-two million dollars (\$22,000,000) for the continuance of its work among the Indians of the United States as a whole, of which said sum only a one-twentieth part thereof, or one million one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$1,125,000) has been allotted to the Territory of Alaska for education and medical relief; and,

WHEREAS, the Indians of the United States proper, by killing the early white settlers who attempted to dispossess them of their ancient hunting grounds, forced the United States Government to recognize their rights and to provide them with lands and other preferences which have in many cases, made them prosperous, while the aboriginies of Alaska, being of peaceable and law-abiding dispositions, have quietly pursued their humble occupations, and because of their peaceable dispositions and lives, the United States Government has taken but little interest in the aboriginal population of Alaska, has not provided adequate reservations for their use, nor has the Indian of Alaska been given intelligent aid to the end that he might learn to compete with the white man, nor been given proper medical attention; the truth of which statement is apparent from an examination of the records of vital statistics of the Territory of Alaska, said records showing that in the past fifteen years the death rate due to tuberculosis among Indians and those of mixed blood, is 36½% as against 1.7% due to the same cause in the United States proper; and,

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior, testifying before the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, has recently (November 1930) stated the policy of his Department to be: to turn over to the various States and Territories the responsibility for the control and operation of the schools, hospitals and other relief organizations among the Indians, as is shown by the following statement, appearing on page 11, Interior Department Appropriation Bill 1932: (By Secretary Wilbur) "We have put about one-half the Indians into the white schools now, and we are paying for some of them but not for all. In other words, we are trying to transfer them over to the public school system, if we can do that, and transfer them to the public health system, and to the general hospitals, instead of building too many buildings of our own. If we can do that, that would help", that this policy of the Interior Department, has been in effect in Alaska for some time, as may be seen from the following facts, taken from the record of the Territorial

Commissioner of Education of Alaska: that in 71 schools, being all of the schools of the Territory of Alaska maintained and operated outside of incorporated towns, there are one thousand six hundred and eight pupils, of which number three hundred and sixty-nine are white, the remaining one thousand two hundred and thirty-nine being pupils of Indian or mixed blood; that there are three thousand four hundred and sixty-eight pupils in seventeen schools operated by the Territory in incorporated towns, of whom three thousand forty-six are of white blood, and four hundred and twenty-two of Indian or mixed blood; that the total percentage of white children in all the schools supported by the Territory of Alaska is not more than 68%; furthermore, that of the funds of the Territory of Alaska appropriated for medical and indigent relief, excluding the Pioneer's Home and the Pioneer's Pension, approximately 90% is expended among the Indians; and,

WHEREAS, the total income of the Territory of Alaska received from license taxes amounts to practically the same amount as is being appropriated each year by the government of the United States for its work among the Alaska Indians; any further increase in such Territorial Taxation, would, in the opinion of your memorialist, result not only in crippling the present industries of the Territory but in preventing and discouraging the formation and establishment of new industries in Alaska, and,

WHEREAS, as has been shown herein, the taxable resources of the Territory of Alaska are absolutely insufficient to provide revenues beyond the bare necessities for the support of the Territorial Government of Alaska and for the education of the white children of the Territory, and the relief of the aged and disabled among the white population; and,

WHEREAS, a continuation of the policy outlined by the Secretary of the Interior, whereby the Federal Government seeks to avoid responsibility for this great proportion of its wards residing in the Territory and to place said burden upon the Territorial Government of this sparsely populated area, can result only in retarding the development of Alaska through excessive taxation and in the driving out of the Territory the industries already established therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, YOUR MEMORIALIST EARNESTLY PRAYS, that the policy of the Interior Department, as declared by the Secretary be relaxed as to the Territory of Alaska; and,

That the Interior Department increase appropriations for

the care of the Indians in said Territory to an amount proportionate to the ratio which the Alaska Indian population bears to the total number of such wards of the Government of the United States as a whole; and,

That the Interior Department provide hospitalization, doctors, nurses, quarantine funds, and other medical service adequate to care for said people; and,

That orphan asylums be established, and,

That a system of education be established which will train the aboriginal inhabitants of Alaska so that they may successfully compete in those vocations such as, boat building, carpentry, gas engineering, wood and ivory carving, basket weaving, and other kindred pursuits, as to the male population, and sewing, cooking, nursing and personal hygiene as to the females, and thus, that the aborigines may become a happy, contented, self-supporting, self-respecting people; and,

To the further end, that the white population of the Territory of Alaska be not oppressed and over-burdened beyond its ability and capacity, and that its development be not restricted by responsibilities justly the care of the United States Government, and to the end that it may be permitted to develop normally and become a prosperous unit of these United States of America.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed the House, April 8, 1931.

Passed the Senate, April 25, 1931.

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### HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 5.

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska in Tenth regular session assembled, respectfully represents that:

WHEREAS, the waters of Southeastern and Southwestern Alaska have received considerable attention by the Bureau of Fisheries and the private interests of the fishing industry, but this work has not been extended to the Northern waters; and,