

WHEREAS, the people of Alaska while appreciating that such delay may be necessary, nevertheless desire to achieve the greatest measure of self-government at the earliest opportunity; and

WHEREAS, this administration has recommended to Congress that the people of Puerto Rico be permitted to elect their own Governor; and

WHEREAS, the people of Alaska deem themselves fully qualified and capable at the present time to exercise all the duties and prerogatives of full citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States to amend the Organic Act for Alaska to permit the people of Alaska to elect their own Governor.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, February 19, 1945.

Passed by the Senate, March 5, 1945.

---

## HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 10

TO THE HONORABLE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE HONORABLE FRANK T. HINES, ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, in Seventeenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully represents that:

WHEREAS, the Act of Congress, dated June 22, 1944, known as the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944" or more commonly known as the "G. I. Bill of Rights", makes provision for the hospitalization, education, rehabilitation and the giving of financial assistance to returning veterans to engage in business, commerce, trade or agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans' Administration is the agency charged with the administration of this Act; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Act have been extended to the Territory of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the southern tip of Alaska is 640 miles from continental United States and from there extends 2700 miles west and 1580 miles north, an area as wide and as deep as the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans' Administration will, in order to administer the Act effectively, have to work closely with many territorial and federal agencies with offices located in the Territory; and

WHEREAS, experience in recent years has shown the impossibility of handling Alaskan governmental affairs through a regional or district office established in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, other government agencies have by experience learned that the problems in the Territory of Alaska are so different from those of the west coast and that an office set up primarily to service the west coast cannot at the same time extend the necessary service to the Territory; and

WHEREAS, the impracticability of attempting to run such affairs at so great a distance becomes increasingly greater; and

WHEREAS, confusion and chaos in administration of the Act will without question arise should a separate office not be established within the Territory; and

WHEREAS, the Act contemplates administration on a state-wide basis; and

WHEREAS, a state under section 1502 of the Act includes the Territory of Alaska;

NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, does respectfully pray that every effort be made, in order to protect adequately the interests of returning veterans,

immediately to establish a regional office in Alaska, with such other branch offices as may be necessary in the principal cities of Alaska.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, February 20, 1945.

Passed by the Senate March 17, 1945.

---

### HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 11

TO THE HONORABLE THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE HONORABLE HENRY L. STIMSON, SECRETARY OF WAR AND TO THE HONORABLE E. L. BARTLETT, DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM ALASKA:

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska, respectfully represents that:

WHEREAS, the City of Ketchikan, Tongass Narrows, is the center of the largest fishing area in Alaska and is utilized by the largest number of fishing vessels in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, there is insufficient harbor or safe anchorage at Ketchikan and on account thereof those operating in the waters adjacent thereto are required, on the approach of severe and sudden storms, to seek shelter to distant ports, all of which entails great risk of loss of life and property as well as heavy expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska in Seventeenth Regular Session assembled, respectfully urges that the United States Government enlarge the harbor facilities and build a breakwater with a ferry landing approach attached thereto in Tongass Narrows adjacent to Ketchikan, Alaska, as soon as priorities might be made available for the construction of such a project.

AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.

Passed by the House, March 20, 1945.

Passed by the Senate, March 17, 1945.