



# Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

HJR 20

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Commending the University of Washington's efforts to develop a regional medical school concept.

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

WHEREAS, although in the United States there is one doctor for every 650 people, Alaska suffers from an over-all ratio of one doctor to every 900 people and the distribution for rural Alaska is one doctor to every 1,200 people; and

WHEREAS, while Alaska offers unique opportunities for advanced medical research and general practice with a comparatively small population, Alaskan needs are best satisfied through a regional medical program; and

WHEREAS because of geographical remoteness it is difficult to attract medical school graduates to the state; and

WHEREAS the University of Washington Medical School, with support of The Commonwealth Fund of New York, is sponsoring a program better known as "WAMI" whereby medical students can complete a portion of their curriculum while domiciled in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the exposure to Alaska through this program enhances consideration of our state as a locale for practice upon graduation, and strengthens the student's appreciation for Alaskan health needs;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh Alaska State Legislature strongly commends the University of Washington Medical School's regional efforts to provide a more equitable distribution of doctors throughout Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho, and encourages expansion of the existing program in the future.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Daniel Evans, Governor of the State of Washington; the Honorable John A. Cherberg, President of the Washington State Senate; the Honorable Thomas L. Copeland, Speaker of the Washington State House; Dr. Charles Odeguard, President of the University of Washington; Dr. Robert Van Citters, Dean of the University of Washington School of Medicine; and to The Commonwealth Fund of New York.