



Alaska State Legislature

1971

Source:

SJR 45

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

Relating to the Arctic Health Research Center.

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

WHEREAS the Arctic Health Research Center was established in 1948 to conduct activities necessary in the investigation, prevention, treatment, and control of diseases; and

WHEREAS since that time the center has gained a world-renowned reputation for its work in cold-adaptive processes, cold as a factor in human stress, the life cycles of parasites and host-parasite relationships peculiar to the arctic, and more recently for its work related to the biomedical and environmental engineering needs of concerns planning arctic activities, and for its efforts related to a host of other projects too numerous to list; and

WHEREAS, during the past three years, the center has descended from a line-item position in the budget of the Public Health Service to the level of a subdivision in a bureau that is lost in the limbo of reorganization; and

WHEREAS current proposals would allow only 47 positions (down from 83 authorized in 1968), a level which could be expected to cripple or extinguish most of the programs in progress at the center; and

WHEREAS there is national recognition of Alaskan resources, human needs and problems, all dictating continued research into the biomedical and environmental fields in connection with the arctic; and

WHEREAS the Arctic Health Research Center is the only institution of its kind in the United States;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that the proposed reduced funding for the Arctic Health Research Center is deplored and it urgently requests the United States Congress to adequately fund the center so it may remain a viable entity; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that every consideration be given to the transfer of the center to a more active federal agency or in the alternative to permit the transfer of the center to the University of Alaska.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Elliott Richardson, Secretary, Department of Health, Education and Welfare; the Honorable Allen J. Ellender, U. S. Senator and Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee; the Honorable George H. Mahon, U. S. Representative and Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.