



Alaska State Legislature

1972

Source:

HCR 70

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 70

Honoring Eva McGown.

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

WHEREAS Eva McGown, one of Alaska's premier citizens, met an untimely death on February 22, 1972, in the disastrous Nordale Hotel fire in Fairbanks; and

WHEREAS after her arrival in Alaska in 1914 from her childhood home in Ireland, Eva McGown's life was inextricably entwined with the notable moments of Alaskan history; and

WHEREAS after following a happy career as homemaker for her first 16 years in Alaska as the wife of Fairbanks pioneer Arthur McGown, she faced the personal tragedy of his death and dedicated herself to sharing with others by embarking on a new career of community service; and

WHEREAS with her natural love for humanity, her keen interest in people and their problems and her abundance of energy, Eva McGown became Fairbanks' unofficial hostess long before she was proclaimed "official hostess" for Fairbanks and, later, for the whole state; and

WHEREAS this woman's compassion for human need has now become a legend throughout the world because her numerous benefactors now serve our nation in every part of the globe and all have a fond memory of Fairbanks and Alaska because of Eva McGown; and

WHEREAS Eva's office was always a haven of refuge for any person who needed help, and help she gave willingly with equal compassion and concern for all; and

WHEREAS her wit, wisdom and irrepressible energy will be sorely missed by all those who knew her and by the innumerable service clubs and organizations in which she served;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh Alaska Legislature joins with the people of Alaska and her thousands of friends everywhere in mourning the loss of the good, great and beautiful Eva McGown, and that this resolution serve as a small token of the high regard and esteem for the dedication and faithful service to her fellowmen which Eva McGown practiced unceasingly throughout her life.