



Alaska State Legislature

1973

Source:

SCR 24

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

Honoring Anfesia Shapsnikoff.

BE IT RESOLVED

BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS Anfesia Shapsnikoff, known affectionately to many Alaskans as "Little Grandma", recently passed away; and

WHEREAS Mrs. Shapsnikoff was a lifelong resident of Unalaska and devoted her life to preserving the colorful heritage of the Aleut people; and

WHEREAS she, probably more than any other person, was a spokesman for the Aleut people and was instrumental in reviving the art of Aleut basketry and in preserving other segments of the culture and history of her people; and

WHEREAS, aside from the above activities for which she rightfully was renowned in her own lifetime, she was a noted community organizer who continually worked within local government for the betterment of her people and has been credited with doing more to perpetuate the Russian Orthodox Church in Unalaska than anyone and received a special certificate from Bishop Theodosius for her long and outstanding service to the Orthodox faith; and

WHEREAS she represented the State of Alaska at many functions over the years and in many states, including being in charge of Alaska's program at the Oregon Centennial in 1959, visiting museums, Indian centers, and like organizations talking about her people and other Alaskan matters, as well as throughout the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS she was honored during the Alaska Centennial in 1967 with the Governor's Award for perpetuating Native arts and crafts;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that it expresses its most profound sense of loss as a result of the death of this truly remarkable "Little Grandma" but affirms its belief that, because of her devotion to her people, her culture, her community, and her state, generations of Alaskans for years to come will be indebted to Anfesia Shapsnikoff and she will always be revered as a truly great Alaskan.

COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to Philemon and Tracy Tutiakoff, her sons; Mrs. Robert Herrick, her daughter; Vincent Tutiakoff, her grandson; and to Timothy Tutiakoff, Gregory Shapsnikoff, and Mrs. Tom Reedy, her foster children.