



# Alaska State Legislature

1974

Source:

HCR 6

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Paying tribute to the memory of Earl D. Hillstrand.

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

WHEREAS the members of the Eighth Alaska Legislature are deeply grieved to learn of the passing of one of its senior and most valued members, Earl D. Hillstrand of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS Representative Hillstrand, a native of Seattle, Washington, was a graduate of the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, and George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C.; he arrived in Alaska in 1944 where he first served as an attorney with the Alaskan Command; and

WHEREAS, prominent in real estate and insurance in Anchorage, perhaps Earl Hillstrand was best known to most Alaskans as the owner and operator of Land's End restaurant and hotel on the Homer Spit -- no one who enjoyed the hospitality of this nationally-known resort, however briefly, could fail to recall the superb cuisine, the memorable, peaceful view out across Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet to the surrounding grandeur of crystal glaciers and towering peaks that comprise the Kenai Peninsula, or, the graciousness of the host; and

WHEREAS, first elected to the 23rd and last Territorial Legislature in 1956, he served in the First, Third, Fourth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Alaska Legislatures as a member of the House of Representatives from Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, in more than 12 years of legislative service to the people of this state, Earl Hillstrand twice served as Chairman of the House Finance Committee -- in the First and the Eighth Legislatures: also during this period, he was a member of the Rules,

Judiciary, Commerce and State Affairs Committees, serving as Vice-Chairman and Chairman, respectively, of the latter two; and

WHEREAS, elected as a Democrat, he nevertheless examined microscopically every budget bill of every governor regardless of party, and every appropriation measure, for he was the state legislature's preeminent, vigorous spokesman for fiscal integrity, preferring to be known to the public and his colleagues alike as the "watchdog of the state treasury";

BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Alaska State Legislature that as they convey to his family their sorrow and sense of loss of an esteemed fellow legislator, they do so by acknowledging the significant contribution Earl D. Hillstrand made to the development of Alaska and to the financial health of state government for three decades as a distinguished businessman and as a courageous, outspoken state legislator; the stilling of his voice that invariably cried out for caution makes the task of legislating at this session and at future sessions of the Alaska Legislature that much more difficult, for we, as friends and colleagues, will miss his wise counsel and guidance.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to his widow, Mary Jane; to his daughters, Mary Joann of Oakland, California, and Mary Margaret of Anchorage; and to his son, John Wesley of Homer.