



Alaska State Legislature

1974

Source:

HJR 78 am

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 78

Urging the appropriation of more funds for Bureau of Indian Affairs school construction.

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

WHEREAS the construction of Native schools nationwide and particularly in Alaska is vital to the welfare of all citizens and deserving of the highest priority in the realm of public assistance; and

WHEREAS, of the \$24,000,000 appropriation for FY 1974 for the BIA, the only facility Alaska received was one kindergarten, and for 1975 optimistic forecasts see the state receiving, at the most, only three kindergartens and one small day school; and

WHEREAS, under a unified school agreement between the state and the BIA, schools presently under BIA administration that meet state standards are to be transferred to the state, but most BIA schools cannot meet state standards due to lack of funds for their upgrading; and

WHEREAS it would be most desirable for all concerned to have all schools presently under BIA administration in Alaska transferred to the people of Alaska; and

WHEREAS the United States Supreme Court outlawed separate and unequal school systems in 1954;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges the United States Congress to appropriate \$200,000,000 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs school construction program in Alaska so that the agency can meet the educational needs of the

people and cause the expeditious transfer of the BIA school system in Alaska to the state and people of Alaska.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Carl Albert, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable James Eastland, President of the Senate; the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Honorable Morris Thompson, Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs; the Honorable John L. McClellan, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Committee; the Honorable George H. Mahon, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.