



Alaska State Legislature

1974

Source:

SCS HJR 84 am S

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 84

Requesting immediate funding by the State Department of Education for new school construction at Akiak, Alaska and other rural areas in Alaska.

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

WHEREAS the Akiak village school is approximately 40 years old; and

WHEREAS the building literally shakes when the tower bell is rung; and

WHEREAS the building has become extremely flammable; and

WHEREAS the parents of the students are, with good reason, reluctant to allow their children to attend school in the present facilities, but are even more hesitant to allow the students to leave home to attend different schools at their early ages, since the children are grades K through 6; and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Indian Affairs has estimated that the construction costs to bring the Bureau of Indian Affairs operated schools in Alaska up to the minimum standards promulgated by the state will exceed the sum of \$151,000,000; and

WHEREAS the capital improvement budget for Bureau of Indian Affairs schools in Alaska for fiscal year 1973 was \$248,000; and

WHEREAS the total amount appropriated for school construction purposes since 1969 is \$8,400,000; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska is seeking to upgrade its rural school system to meet its own minimum standards;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the State Department of Education is requested to give immediate priority status to the funding of a new school at Akiak, Alaska; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bureau of Indian Affairs take vigorous action recognizing its joint responsibility with the State of Alaska to upgrade remaining rural schools to a level at least equal to the minimum standards prescribed by the state.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary, Department of the Interior; the Honorable Morris Thompson, Commissioner, Bureau of Indian Affairs; and to the Honorable William A. Egan, Governor; and to Dr. Marshall L. Lind, Commissioner of Education; 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.