



Alaska State Legislature

1976

Source:

HJR 52 am S

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

Relating to immigration visas for alien children adopted by American citizens.

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

WHEREAS 8 U.S.C. sec. 1151(a) and (b) provides that children of an American citizen are not subject to numerical limitations for visa applications; and

WHEREAS 8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)(E) defines children, for the purposes of sec. 1151, to include adopted alien children only if the child has been in the custody of, and resided with, the parents for at least two years; and

WHEREAS these requirements make it necessary for American citizens to live abroad with adopted alien children for two years before the alien child can be admitted to the United States; and

WHEREAS Americans wishing to adopt alien children must therefore undertake costly and time-consuming obligations before they can bring adopted alien children back to the United States; and

WHEREAS adoption of alien children by American citizens is a loving and humane gesture which epitomizes the ideal of America as a land where the oppressed and impoverished people of the world may find succor, opportunity and fulfillment; and

WHEREAS Congressional policy with respect to immigration visas for adopted alien children contradicts this basic ideal by frustrating the attempts of American citizens to adopt alien children;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the United States Congress is respectfully requested to amend 8 U.S.C. sec. 1101(b)(1)(E) to eliminate the two-year custody and residency requirements applicable to immigration visas for alien children adopted by American citizens who are relatives of the alien children and, thereby, permit those adopted alien children to be admitted to the United States immediately upon transfer of custody to the adopting parents.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States; the Honorable James O. Eastland, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate; the Honorable Carl Albert, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; 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.