

# STATE OF ALASKA

## THE LEGISLATURE

1977

Source

Legislative  
Resolve No.

HJR 36 am

70



Relating to a comprehensive study of welfare reform by the President of the United States.

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

WHEREAS the President of the United States has begun a comprehensive study of welfare reform and requested a report from the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare by May 1, 1977; and

WHEREAS there is a critical need for a comprehensive, well-integrated welfare program to replace the multitudinous, complex and overlapping programs presently existing; and

WHEREAS the magnitude of the welfare problem is directly related to the high unemployment rate presently existing; and

WHEREAS welfare reform should be undertaken with the idea that no one who can work and can find employment should be supported by public funds; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate that the State of Alaska make recommendations as to such reform;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully recommends to the President and the Congress the following desirable features in the reformed welfare system:

(1) First reliance shall be placed on stimulating the private economy to provide jobs for all who are able to work.

(2) When the private economy is not able to supply all necessary jobs, a system of public works and public service projects shall be instituted offering employment to all who are unable to find work in the private sector.

(3) Any person subject to the work requirement who is unwilling to work shall be denied welfare benefits. Exemptions to the work requirement may be granted on the basis of age, mental or physical illness, need to care for children or seriously ill family members, and for specified educational purposes.

(4) Welfare benefits for those unable to work shall be administered through one program with one set of criteria.

(5) The public works and public service program, and the welfare program, shall be funded by the federal government but administered by the states.

(6) Payment for work on public works and public service projects shall be at approximately 75 per cent of the union scale in the geographic area when directly employed by a political subdivision.

(7) Welfare payment rates shall reflect differences in the cost of living in the affected areas and shall be set by the states in conjunction with the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jimmy Carter, President of the United States; the Honorable Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare; the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, President of the U. S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U. S. 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.