

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1978

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

HCR 122

24



Relating to private higher education in Alaska.

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

WHEREAS all Alaskans should have a broad spectrum of opportunity for higher education of genuine excellence; and

WHEREAS our American history has been marked by the singular and sustained contribution made by private colleges and universities, especially in the development of the American frontier; and

WHEREAS public and private colleges and universities complement each other in ways which strengthen our nation and contribute to improved quality, economics and innovations in education; and

WHEREAS the partnership of public and private higher education in providing excellence in education with meaningful alternatives serves the interest of the student and the state; and

WHEREAS the existence in Alaska of private colleges and universities encourages more students to attend college in the state, thus making their leadership and talent available to Alaskan communities and the state; and

WHEREAS private universities can provide education in the liberal arts with less need for specialization, thereby broadening the students' world view and cultural awareness which is especially needed in Alaska with our diverse cultures and languages and our important geographic position connecting east and west; and

WHEREAS Alaska's history has been marked by the imaginative and sacrificial leadership of the private sector in creating,

100 years ago, our state's first college, Sheldon Jackson, and incorporating, a day before Alaska was declared a state, Alaska Methodist University; and

WHEREAS mounting costs and changing moods of public policy and support have placed new and awesome burdens on these private institutions; and

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of public policy concerning the future of our youth, the integrity of our pluralistic system of public-private institutions, the provision of viable options for our students, insurance of investments already made, and proper encouragement of private sector support from corporations, individuals, and foundations which might otherwise interpret their tax support as sufficient, to properly declare and support the need for our dual system for the future of Alaska;

BE IT RESOLVED that the legislature recognizes the significant role that private universities play in our state, declares its appreciation for the past contributions of these institutions, their special importance for the future of Alaskan higher education, and, taking note of their special and urgent need for support from the private sector, commends this appropriate support, particularly from those persons and organizations benefiting particularly from the resources, natural and human, of Alaska.