

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1979

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SCR 10

9



Recognizing International Year of the Child and encouraging Alaskans to participate in local observances.

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

WHEREAS children with all their joy, curiosity, creativity, insight, and trust are a perpetual source of delight and inspiration; and

WHEREAS children are our most valuable resource and our hope for the future; it is up to them to carry our work and dreams forward and to determine whether our diverse Alaskan cultures and lifestyles flourish or die; and

WHEREAS the third of our population in Alaska who are children are substantially dependent on adults for their care and well being, and how well we as adults fulfill our responsibilities to our children is one measure of the greatness of this or any society; and

WHEREAS the United States as a whole is one of the richest and most technologically advanced nations of the world, yet the high rates of infant mortality, the prevalence of child abuse and neglect, and the insufficiency of medical care and pre-school and after school care, indicate that the quality of care for our children is sometimes wanting; and

WHEREAS even in Alaska, despite the levels of assistance and service provided by both the public and private sector, children at times still face serious obstacles to their healthy physical, emotional, and intellectual development, such as poor nutrition, untreated disease, inadequate shelter, and education not suited to their culture or special needs; and

WHEREAS as soaring rates of teenage alcoholism and drug

abuse, vandalism and crime, the falling educational achievement scores, and the prevalence of teenage pregnancy appear to indicate our failure to provide a world for our children where social responsibility, achievement, and self-respect are valued and attainable goals for them; and

WHEREAS times are rapidly changing; and the lives of our children are substantially different than our own childhoods; we must therefore learn more about our children and their lives before we can provide them with meaningful guidance; and

WHEREAS each child is unique, with his or her own personality, abilities, and special needs, and it is up to us to see that each child receives the love, personal attention and education suited to both that child's special abilities and disabilities, to enable that child to become a useful and productive member of society;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature acknowledges the important role of children in our society and joins with other states and nations throughout the world in recognizing 1979 as "International Year of the Child;" and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the citizens of Alaska to create and participate in local observances of International Year of the Child which will enhance our understanding and appreciation of our children, which will stimulate improvements in our parenting skills and public services, and which will help us create a better world for our children to grow up in.