

STATE OF ALASKA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1984

Source

CSHR 13 (HESS)

House

Resolve No.

8



Relating to a state policy for the developmentally disabled and the substantially handicapped.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

WHEREAS the Alaska House of Representatives recognizes the innate dignity, value, and rights of developmentally disabled Alaskans and substantially handicapped Alaskans; and

WHEREAS the continued improvement of the quality of life for developmentally disabled Alaskans and substantially handicapped Alaskans is a concern of all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS the Alaska House of Representatives recognizes the importance of expanding opportunities for the developmentally disabled and the substantially handicapped for independence in employment, education, and community living; and

WHEREAS the Alaska House of Representatives recognizes that it is desirable that delivery of social services to the developmentally disabled and to the substantially handicapped be made in the least restrictive manner, consistent with ensuring each individual's health, safety, and growth; and

WHEREAS it is important that the active exploration of community-based alternatives to institutionalization continue; and

WHEREAS state law has recognized and incorporated a policy of minimal institutionalization since 1978 and a recent decision of the Alaska Supreme Court has recognized this legislative policy; and

WHEREAS every year since 1978 the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted has provided the state a plan that could increase the availability of community-based services that could

deinstitutionalize Alaska's developmentally disabled and substantially handicapped populations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives respectfully requests the Governor and appropriate departments and agencies to submit to the First Session of the Fourteenth Alaska State Legislature a comprehensive program for the developmentally disabled and the substantially handicapped that will advance the goals expressed in this resolution, after due consideration of advice from the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted.