

STATE OF ALASKA
SENATE

1987

Source

SR 10

Senate
Resolve No.

7



Establishing a Senate Special Committee on AIDS Prevention.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

WHEREAS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a worldwide epidemic that has killed thousands of people, including many young, productive Americans; and

WHEREAS it has been predicted that by 1991, 270,000 cases of AIDS will have occurred in the United States, resulting in 179,000 deaths; and

WHEREAS the AIDS epidemic is now one of the top priorities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS U.S. Senator Ted Stevens has proposed legislation to form a National Commission on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome; and

WHEREAS, according to the Surgeon General of the United States, the AIDS virus is presently carried by an estimated 1,500,000 men and women throughout the United States, from every state in the union, with the number of Americans acquiring the AIDS virus doubling every nine months; and

WHEREAS there is presently no known cure for AIDS and no vaccine to prevent AIDS; and

WHEREAS, although the Surgeon General has stated that AIDS cannot be transmitted through casual social contact or in the same manner as a common cold, chicken pox, or by mosquitoes or pets, the Surgeon General has stated that AIDS can be transmitted through heterosexual or homosexual sexual contact with a carrier of the virus and by the use of nonsterile, infected needles and syringes; and

WHEREAS, while significant medical progress has been made in the fight against AIDS, it nonetheless remains uncertain how long it will take to develop and safely test a preventive vaccine and cure; and

WHEREAS, although AIDS is a life-threatening disease and a major public health hazard, AIDS is preventable through personal understanding of the threat;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate that a Senate Special Committee on AIDS Prevention is established to recommend a course of action to help prevent the spread of AIDS in Alaska, while preserving our humanity and decency; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate shall determine the number of senators to be members of the committee, and shall appoint the members and designate a member to chair the committee; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate Special Committee on AIDS Prevention may meet during and between sessions of the legislature, and is terminated on the convening of the First Session of the Sixteenth Legislature.