

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1990

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SCR 45

88



Relating to medical education about fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects.

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

WHEREAS fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects, which are birth defects related to alcohol consumption by pregnant women, are preventable if pregnant women and women who plan to become pregnant abstain from alcohol; and

WHEREAS educational sources available to women that are designed to increase their awareness of the harm that alcohol consumption during pregnancy can have on their children usually include a suggestion that they consult their physicians or other health care professionals about this subject; and

WHEREAS alcohol-related birth defects have only recently been discovered to be a major health problem, and previous medical education relating to these birth defects may have been inadequate when many of today's physicians and nurses received their medical training; and

WHEREAS new discoveries continue to be made in the area of fetal alcohol syndrome and fetal alcohol effects, and these discoveries could significantly affect the advice that physicians and nurses give their patients who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Alaska State Medical Association and the Alaska Nurses Association to investigate the possibility of requiring appropriate continuing medical education courses that will keep their respective practitioners aware of the latest developments concerning the causes and effects of alcohol-related birth defects; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Medical Association and the Alaska Nurses Association should contact the organizations they have accredited to provide continuing education in their respective fields in order to encourage and assist them in the development of appropriate continuing education courses about alcohol-related birth defects and their prevention.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the principal office of the Alaska State Medical Association and the principal office of the Alaska Nurses Association.