

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1997

Source
SJR 19

Legislative
Resolve No.
29



Relating to naming Anchorage as the location of the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

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

WHEREAS it is the mission of Special Olympics International to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic sports for children eight years of age and older and adults with mental retardation, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience the joy of competition, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community; and

WHEREAS the Special Olympics World Winter Games play a crucial role in the fulfillment of the Special Olympics' mission; and

WHEREAS a Special Olympics World Winter Games Committee has been organized in Anchorage, with United States Senator Ted Stevens as its honorary chair; and

WHEREAS Anchorage has in place the facilities necessary to host the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games and has selected the theme "Enlightening the World with the Spirit of Brave Heart"; and

WHEREAS the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games would bring as many

as 6,600 athletes, coaches, delegates, family members, volunteers, and dignitaries to Alaska during the winter months for 10 days; and

WHEREAS hosting the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games would leave the Special Olympics program in Alaska bigger and stronger, expand the program to the indigenous people of Alaska, and leave permanent improvements to existing winter sports facilities;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports the Special Olympics World Winter Games Committee in its efforts to have Anchorage selected as the site for the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games of Special Olympics International.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Eunice Kennedy Shriver, founder, Special Olympics International; to the Honorable Ted Stevens, Honorary Chair, Special Olympics World Winter Games Committee; to the Honorable Rick Mystrom, Mayor of Anchorage; and to Patti McGuire, Chair, Special Olympics World Winter Games Committee of Anchorage.