

# STATE OF ALASKA SENATE

1999

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Senate  
Resolve No.  
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Relating to declaring March 1999 as Sobriety Awareness Month.

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## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

**WHEREAS** it is the policy of the State of Alaska, under AS 47.37.010, "to recognize, appreciate, and reinforce the example set by its citizens who lead, believe in, and support a life of sobriety"; and

**WHEREAS** sobriety has been defined to mean "a positive, healthy, and productive way of life, free from the devastating effects of alcohol and drugs" by more than 50 profit and nonprofit organizations, community groups, and student governments throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS** these organizations, community groups, and student governments constitute what is commonly referred to as a growing "sobriety movement"; and

**WHEREAS** the "sobriety movement" is interpreted as "The collective effort on the part of individuals, families and communities, and public and private agencies, affected by, concerned with, and working toward the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse, who by example encourage and support others in leading a life of sobriety"; and

**WHEREAS** the benefits of leading a life of sobriety to Alaska's citizens are threefold:

(1) improvement in the quality of life and health of individuals, families, and communities;

(2) reduction in the incidence of alcohol and drug related crimes;

(3) reduction in the burden on government by not having to exhaust its resources to pay for the pervasive problems caused by alcohol and drug abuse; and

**WHEREAS** March has been designated "Sobriety Awareness Month" by the Alaska State Legislature and Governor Knowles every year since 1995 to recognize, appreciate, and reinforce the example set by citizens who lead, believe in, and support a life of sobriety;

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate that the month of March 1999 should be proclaimed as Sobriety Awareness Month; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that Governor Tony Knowles is requested to proclaim the same and have copies of the proclamation sent to all the respective departments and departmental agencies within the administration that fund or have contact with youth, schools, or family services, or that provide rehabilitation or correctional services; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that all Alaska citizens who lead, believe in, or support a life of sobriety are urged to indicate so by wearing a white ribbon of their choosing so that they may be readily recognized and appreciated during Sobriety Awareness Month 1999.