

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

2001

Source
SJR 12(title am)

Legislative
Resolve No.
13



Urging the United States Congress to amend the tax code to eliminate the marriage penalty.

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

WHEREAS many married couples pay more income tax than they would be required to pay as single individuals living together; and

WHEREAS more than 44 million Americans, approximately 43 percent of all married couples, are affected each year by this marriage penalty, according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO); and

WHEREAS the CBO estimates that under current tax laws the marriage penalty results in married couples paying an average of \$1,480 more in taxes each year than cohabiting individuals earning the same income; and

WHEREAS the United States Congress passed H.R. 4810, the "Marriage Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2000," providing tax relief to married couples penalized under current tax laws, but this legislation was vetoed by President Clinton;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress of the United

States is urged to again pass legislation that amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the tax system marriage-neutral; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that this legislation equalize the standard deduction for a married couple to the amount to which two unmarried individuals earning the same combined level of income would be entitled; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that this legislation equalize for married couples filing jointly the amount of income that pushes taxpayers into higher tax brackets by making the breakpoints twice what they are for single filers.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Paul O'Neill, United States Secretary of the Treasury; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Chuck Grassley, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance; the Honorable Bill Thomas, Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.