

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1989

Source

SJR 35

Legislative
Resolve No.

41



Requesting the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to consider the importance of community health care for veterans.

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

WHEREAS the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care delivery system provides veterans access to quality health care services in their own Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS Alaska has more than 70,000 veterans and approximately 52 percent of those veterans reside outside the municipality of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS Alaska veterans and their families live in many remote Alaska communities where air travel is costly and sometimes not available; and

WHEREAS Alaska's fragile health care system is dependent on the participation of all population groups to maintain health professionals, medical technologies, and routine and specialized health services in rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS the current VA system allows veterans to be cared for in their home communities;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to consider the following factors when they set policies related to veterans' health care:

(1) it is important to the Alaska veteran to receive care in the veteran's home community; and

(2) care for veterans in their home communities assists in the maintenance of a health care delivery system for all Alaskans.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Edward J. Derwinski, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs; the Honorable Richard Cheney, Secretary of Defense; 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; and the Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs office in Anchorage, Alaska.