

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

1992

Source

HCS CSSCR 5(JUD)

Legislative  
Resolve No.

61



Relating to the expansion of the youth courts currently used in Anchorage to other areas of the state.

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

**WHEREAS** the Anchorage Youth Court is a "court" in which the roles of attorneys, judges, bailiffs, clerks, and jurors are filled by young people between the ages of 12 and 18; and

**WHEREAS** "defendants" before the Anchorage Youth Court are afforded a chance to receive a trial by their peers, without receiving a criminal or juvenile record for their alleged wrongdoing; and

**WHEREAS** defendants "convicted" by the Anchorage Youth Court are frequently "sentenced" to community work service, thus providing a valuable benefit for the Municipality of Anchorage; and

**WHEREAS** the Anchorage Youth Court provides an opportunity for youths who believe themselves to be wrongfully accused of committing offenses, but who cannot afford counsel to contest the charges, to receive a fair hearing at reasonable cost; and

**WHEREAS** the Anchorage Youth Court provides suitable punishment for juvenile

lawbreakers who might not receive such punishment through the regular court system because of that system's lack of resources; and

**WHEREAS** the Anchorage Youth Court has been funded by the Anchorage Bar Association, the Young Lawyers Section of the Anchorage Bar Association, and the Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Fund of the Alaska Bar Association; and

**WHEREAS** other communities around the state could benefit from the establishment of youth courts like the Anchorage Youth Court;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the Alaska Court System, the Anchorage Bar Association, the Alaska Bar Association, and the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services to assist in the expansion of the youth courts into other communities of the state.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the administrative director of the Alaska Court System, the president of the Anchorage Bar Association, the executive director of the Alaska Bar Association, and Theodore A. Mala, M.D., M.P.H., commissioner of health and social services.