

Presented by: Assembly HESS Committee
Assemblymember Parsons
Introduced: 03/02/87
Drafted by: B.J.B.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1225

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CITY AND BOROUGH
OF JUNEAU BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON YOUTH.

WHEREAS, the youth of Juneau are the community's most precious asset and untapped natural resource, and

WHEREAS, the health, happiness, well-being, and education of our youth is one of the principle goals of a well-ordered society, and

WHEREAS, accelerating social, political, and economic trends have placed great stress on families often to the severe detriment of children, and

WHEREAS, the youth of the nation and Juneau in particular are suffering a crisis of the spirit that has manifested itself in a shocking and growing number of children who may become harmfully involved with alcohol and drugs, drop out of school, attempt suicide, run away from home, become pregnant before they are mature enough to raise their own children, or who fall prey to sexual exploitation and physical abuse, and

WHEREAS, failure to insure the well-being, happiness, education, and health of our youth results in personal tragedy for the families involved, deprives society of productive members, and imposes additional costs and burdens on all when neglected youth turn to crime or must be supported at public expense, and

WHEREAS, there has been a decline in services, including counseling, available to youth in Juneau, and

WHEREAS, those services that are available to youth may be outmoded and perceived as ineffectual or irrelevant by the youth they are designed to serve, and

WHEREAS, there are many organizations and individuals in Juneau who have the skills, desire, and ability to address the problems being experienced by youth in the community, but

those current efforts may be fragmented, uncoordinated, and not readily accessible to youth, and

WHEREAS, the problems confronting Juneau youth are community problems deeply rooted in existing economic, political, and social conditions, and

WHEREAS, the problems confronting the youth of Juneau require focusing the attention and energy of the entire community, including not only government and the schools, but also private groups, churches, parents, elders, and the youth themselves on creative, innovative solutions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

1. There is established the City and Borough of Juneau Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth.

2. The commission shall consist of ten members appointed by the Assembly. To the extent possible, appointments shall be made as follows:

- a. One member of the Assembly;
- b. One member of the Board of Education;
- c. One member of Juneau's delegation to the Alaska legislature, or designee;
- d. Two student members;
- e. Five members of the general public.

3. The goal of the commission shall be to enhance and foster the well-being and healthy development of youth in Juneau.

4. In furtherance of its goal, the powers and duties of the commission include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- a. To investigate the state of youth in Juneau.
- b. To conduct, in cooperation with government, schools, and private organizations, public hearings and surveys of youth and adults for the purpose of accomplishing a comprehensive assessment of the needs and problems of youth

in Juneau, identifying those resources that may already be available in the community, and making recommendations concerning possible approaches and solutions to the problems of youth in Juneau.

- c. To focus community attention on the state of youth in Juneau and create a broad based alliance that may consist of youth, parents, elders, schools, religious organizations, private organizations, and all levels of government, that is capable of conceiving and implementing bold, imaginative initiatives relating to youth.

5. The commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Assembly and the citizens of Juneau within six months after the appointment of the commission. Upon the presentation of the report, the commission shall dissolve.

6. After presentation of the report of the commission, the Assembly may determine whether to establish a permanent advisory committee on youth.

7. The rules of procedure for Assembly advisory committees as established by Resolution Serial No. 1180, as amended by Resolution Serial No. 1213, shall govern the conduct of business by the commission.

8. The manager shall provide the commission such staff support and assistance as may be available and appropriate.

Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 16th day of March, 1987.



Mayor

Attest:



Clerk