

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES KREISS-TOMKINS, Tarr, Zulkosky, Hopkins, Tuck

Introduced: 2/24/20

Referred: House Special Committee on Tribal Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Commemorating the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** Alaska Natives faced systemic discrimination and were denied basic civil
4 rights during the state's territorial days; and

5 **WHEREAS** Elizabeth Peratrovich, Grand President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood,
6 and her husband, Roy Peratrovich, Grand President of the Alaska Native Brotherhood,
7 successfully petitioned the Alaska Territorial Legislature and the governor to enact the Anti-
8 Discrimination Act of 1945; and

9 **WHEREAS** the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 banned discriminatory signage and
10 made it a crime to discriminate based on race in public establishments; and

11 **WHEREAS** this landmark legislation was the first anti-discrimination law in the
12 United States; and

13 **WHEREAS** February 16, 2020, marked the 75th anniversary of the Anti-
14 Discrimination Act of 1945 being signed into law;

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the historical
16 importance of the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945 as the vanguard of anti-discrimination

1 legislation in the United States; and be it

2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature commemorates the 75th
3 anniversary of the Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945.

4 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to Paulette Moreno, Grand President of the
5 Alaska Native Sisterhood; Heather Gurko, Grand President of the Alaska Native Brotherhood;
6 and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the
7 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.