

Elderly Native people are on the move, politically, in Alaska

Whereas, in 1975 came the Indian self determination act, including Indian social service in local regional and Statewide assistance of all elderly citizens; and

Whereas, the White House conference on aging indicated that "A large percentage of elderly, Indian and Non-Indian in the State of Alaska do not have sufficient income to cover housing and utility costs; and

Whereas, Amendment 1399 to the Public Utilities Policy Act of 1977, S21 14 will provide for "Lifetime rates" to benefit elderly residential consumers of electricity; and

Whereas, in rural areas such as Hydaburg and all villages in Alaska as defined in the Alaska Native Land settlement Act, as amended, who are being charged for first class service, but in essence are receiving inferior service by contractors who rely on second hand equipment, which repair and upkeep is borne by the elderly contrary to the Act of 1977, S21 14; and

Whereas, "Interim measure as defined by Senator Gary Hart, who presented the amendment, asserted, "the spiraling cost of home energy has caused hardship for the American elderly."

Therefore Be It Resolved, that an effort be taken by M.D. Plotnick, Coordinator, State of Alaska, Dept. of Health and Social Services Office on Aging, to present to the State Legislature the concerns of the elderly and the implementation of the Act of 1977 S21 14.

Be It Further Resolved, where beneficial to organized groups of the elderly on the municipality level, such municipality assist and advocate the implementation of S21 14, and such action of the elderly be made known to Governor Jay Hammond and their respective representatives.

Submitted by:
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