

Resolution Backs Akiak School Building—

BIA Asked to Build School

The State House in a 30-0 vote passed a resolution requesting the Bureau of Indian Affairs to give majority to the funding of a new elementary school building in Akiak.

In support of the resolution, Rep. Phillip Guy, D-Dist. 15, read on the floor of the House letters from Akiak residents de-

scribing the poor condition of the present 40-year-old school and the reluctance of Akiak parents to send their children to the school because of the hazardous conditions.

The letters cited the school's poor foundation; drafts; flammability due to paint build-up; proximity of the boiler room to classrooms; lack of gymnasium facilities; and over-crowded conditions as reasons for a new school.

The letters also expressed a reluctance of parents to send their seventh and eighth grade children away to school because, as one letter states, "Children

are losing their Native culture by being sent away at such a young age."

The Akiak School is for kindergarten through the sixth grade.

In related floor action, the House passed a resolution requesting the U.S. Congress to appropriate \$200 million dollars for the Bureau of Indian Affairs school construction program in Alaska.

Both resolutions were sent to the State Senate for consideration.