



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution # 8

**Resolution To End Child Marriage in the State of Alaska
Submitted by Marley Williams of Lathrop High School**

Submitted: April 9, 2019

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

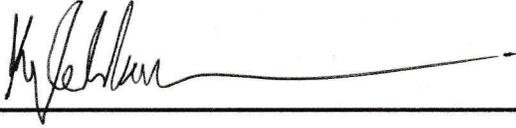
1. **Whereas**, people between the age of 16-18 can get married with parental consent in the state of Alaska; ¹
2. **Whereas**, people aged between 14-16 can get married with parental consent and judicial approval in the state of Alaska; ¹
3. **Whereas**, persons who are less than 18 years of age and who are members of the armed forces of the United States while on active duty are not required to provide parental consent to get married; ¹
4. **Whereas**, between 2007-2016 there were 3 marriages and ten divorces where at least one party was fifteen or younger; ⁴
5. **Whereas**, between 2007-2016 there were 6,045 marriages and 349 divorces in the State of Alaska where at least one party was between 15 and 19; ⁴
6. **Whereas**, in the United States, women who married young were 31% more likely to live in poverty later in life than women who delayed marriage; ³
7. **Whereas**, nearly 70% of marriages entered before the age of 18 ends in divorce in America; ³
8. **Whereas**, women who married before the age of 19 were 50% more likely to drop out of high school than their unmarried counterparts, and four times less likely to complete college; ³
9. **Whereas**, since people under the age of 18 are not considered legal adults they can not file for divorce, sign rental leases, or seek protection in a shelter if they are abused; ²

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports raising the age to get married in Alaska to be, at the youngest eighteen, regardless of parental consent, a court order, or military status.

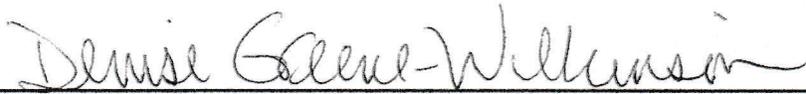
Works Cited:

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2. V.v.B. "Why America Still Permits Child Marriage." *The Economist*, The Economist Newspaper, 3 Jan. 2018, www.economist.com/the-economist-explains/2018/01/03/why-america-still-permits-child-marriage.
3. Hamilton, Vivian E. "The Age of Marital Capacity: Reconsidering Civil Recognition of Adolescent Marriage." *Semantics Scholar*, College of William & Mary Law School, 2012, Pages 1845, 1846, and 1847.
pdfs.semanticscholar.org/285e/6eea1ac27b38f400cc9b444bf1040c9d1479.pdf.
4. Davidson, Valerie, and Jay C. Butler. "Alaska Vital Statistics 2016 Annual Report." *Department of Health and Social Services*, Division of Public Health, Sept. 2017, dhss.alaska.gov/dph/VitalStats/Documents/PDFs/VitalStatistics_AnnualReport_2016.pdf.

Passed unanimously by the 2019 Spring Conference GA at Bethel Regional High School



AASG Vice President, Kyle Hasse



AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson