



Alaska Association of Student Governments
Resolution 7 (Passes Unanimously)
Support Standardized Sexual Health Education
Submitted by Tasha Elizarde and Laurel Stevenson
Juneau-Douglas High School and Thunder Mountain High School

1. **Whereas**, Alaska does not have a standardized sexual health education curriculum;
2. **Whereas**, Less than a quarter of Alaskan secondary schools taught the recommended HIV, STD, and pregnancy prevention topics in the 2013-14 school year¹;
3. **Whereas**, Alaska has the highest chlamydia rate in the nation²;
4. **Whereas**, Alaska ranks 4th in the nation for gonorrheal infections²;
5. **Whereas**, Almost 60% of high school students in Alaska did not use a condom during their last sexual intercourse²;
6. **Whereas**, The rate of pregnancy for Alaska females ages 15-19 is 11th in the nation and higher than the national average³;
7. **Whereas**, A study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* found that over 60% of comprehensive sexual health education programs reduced unprotected sex and 40% of programs delayed the initiation of sex, reduced the number of sexual partners, and increased condom and contraceptive use⁴;
8. **Whereas**, A study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* found that teens ages 15-19 who received comprehensive sexual health education were 50% less likely to experience pregnancy than those who received abstinence-only education⁴;
9. **Whereas**, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention concluded that well-planned and implemented sexual health education is associated with delayed sexual debut, fewer sexual partners, and more widespread and consistent use of condoms¹;
10. **Whereas**, In 2008, the public costs for births resulting from unintended pregnancies in Alaska was \$71 million⁵;
11. **Whereas**, Addressing Alaska's public health emergency can help solve our fiscal crisis;

12. **Whereas**, Juneau students believe all Alaskan students deserve access to a medically accurate, comprehensive and non-judgemental sexual health education;
13. **Whereas**, This resolution is supported by both the Juneau and Anchorage Teen Councils, peer education groups that specialize in sexual health education;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments; a formal letter of support encouraging the Alaska Legislature to recognize our statewide public health crisis by passing a medically accurate, comprehensive and non-judgemental sexual health education standard in order to alleviate and prevent consequences for Alaska will be drafted.

Action Statement: This resolution, if approved by the General Assembly of AASG, will result in the drafting of a formal letter expressing AASG's support of the establishment of a medically accurate, comprehensive and non-judgemental sexual health education standard in Alaska that will be sent to the 30th and 31st Alaska Legislatures and be used by the public to support sexual health education until the end of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session.

Works Cited:

1. Demerne, McManus, et al. "School Health Profiles 2014: Characteristics of Health Programs among Secondary Schools." *U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention*. 2015:
http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/profiles/pdf/2014/2014_profiles_report.pdf
2. "2015 Alaska State Health Profile." *U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention*. 2015:
http://www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/stateprofiles/pdf/alaska_profile.pdf
3. "Alaska Adolescent Reproductive Health Facts." *The Office of Adolescent Health, The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services*. 2014: <https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/adolescent-health-topics/reproductive-health/states/pdfs/ak.pdf>
4. Kohler et al. "Abstinence-only and Comprehensive Sex Education and the Initiation of Sexual Activity and Teen Pregnancy." *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 42(4): 344-351. 2008:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/5505124_Abstinence-Only_and_Comprehensive_Sex_Education_and_the_Initiation_of_Sexual_Activity_and_Teen_Pregnancy

5. “Key Information about Alaska.” *The National Campaign to Prevent Teen & Unplanned Pregnancy*: <https://thenationalcampaign.org/sites/default/files/resource-primary-download/Alaska.pdf>

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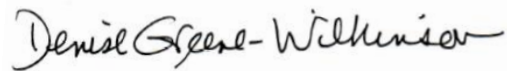
School: Juneau-Douglas High School and Thunder Mountain High School

Student Government President: Sarah Mertz and Justin Sleppy

Passed Unanimously by the Alaska Association of Student Governments at the Spring 2017 Conference



Taylor Holman, Vice President



Denise Greene-Wilkinson, Executive Director