

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 2001 -01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SEWARD HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COMMISSION, RECOMMENDING THE NOMINATION OF THE JESSE
LEE HOME TO AMERICA'S 11 MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC
PLACES**

WHEREAS, the National Trust for Historic Preservation's America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places provides an opportunity to spotlight examples of American heritage threatened by neglect, deterioration, lack of maintenance, insufficient funds, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy; and

WHEREAS, the Jesse Lee Home for Children was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1995 for the critical role it played in serving the health care and educational needs of Alaska's native children orphaned during a wave of devastating epidemics, and because the home fostered many children who have distinguished themselves in a wide variety of fields; and

WHEREAS, John Ben (Benny) Benson Jr., designed Alaska's flag while residing at the Jesse Lee Home, and the site was honored as the location for the first official raising of the Alaska state flag on July 9, 1927; and

WHEREAS, the Jesse Lee Home, which has remained vacant since it was damaged by the 1964 Alaska earthquake, has been gutted, abandoned, and is in poor condition. A recent engineer report on the condition of the building stated that the structure should be considered unstable; and

WHEREAS, the Jesse Lee Home has been consistently cited by Seward residents as a high priority for historic preservation, however, many residents also feel its salvation is beyond the scope of a small community, and that its status as a state historic treasure and home of the Alaska flag design should be recognized; and

WHEREAS, the Jesse Lee Home was listed on the Alaska Association for Historic Preservation's Ten Most Endangered Properties list in 1993 and 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Seward Historic Preservation Plan recommends that the City continue to monitor the status of the Jesse Lee Home and support efforts to save it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Seward Historic Preservation Commission that:


Seward Historic Preservation Commission
Resolution No. 2001-01

Section 1. The Seward Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends the nomination of the Jesse Lee Home to America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Seward Historic Preservation Commission this 10th day of January, 2001.

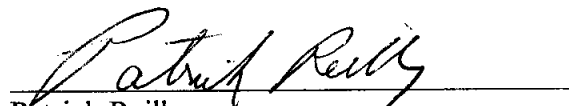
THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA



Jeanne Galvano, Chairman

AYES: Appel, Darling, Galvano, Hearn, Martin, Sczawinski
NOES: None
ABSENT: Seavey
ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:



Patrick Reilly
City Clerk

