

**CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION 2002-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SEWARD HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
COMMISSION, SUPPORTING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
ADOPTION OF HOUSE BILL 96 RELATING TO THE STATE  
ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE JESSE LEE HOME**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Seward owns the historic Jesse Lee Home property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jesse Lee Home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places 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 City of Seward's 2001 and 2002 State Legislative Priorities includes promoting legislation to have the Jesse Lee Home transferred to the State Property Inventory; and

**WHEREAS**, last year the State Legislature introduced House Bill 96 which would enable the State to acquire the Jesse Lee Home property, and manage it in a way that recognizes its contribution in the state's history; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 96 passed through the House of Representatives in last years legislative session, and should be addressed by the Senate during this years session; and

**WHEREAS**, for many years the Jesse Lee Home has been consistently cited by Seward residents as a high priority for historic preservation, however, many residents 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 addressed by the State; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SEWARD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, that:**

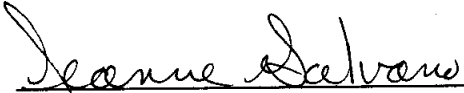
**Section 1.** The Seward Historic Preservation Commission supports the adoption of House Bill 96 relating to the State acquisition and development of the Jesse Lee Home.

**Section 2.** The Commission directs the administration to seek statewide support for House Bill 96.

**Section 3.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

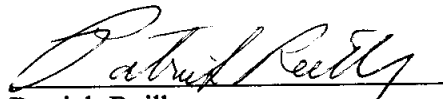
**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Seward Historic Preservation Commission this 16th day of January, 2002.

**THE CITY OF SEWARD, ALASKA**

  
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Jeanne Galvano, Chair

AYES: Appel, Capra, Hearn, Kovac, Swann  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Darling, Galvano,  
ABSTAIN: None

**ATTEST:**

  
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Patrick Reilly  
City Clerk

