

Alaska Association of Student Governments
Resolution #3 (Passed)
D.A.R.E Program
Ketchikan High School
Submitted by Karen Manabat

1. **Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;**
2. **Whereas**, each school throughout Alaska should provide the Drug Abuse
3. Resistance Education (DARE) program for grades Kindergarten-12th grade.
4. **Whereas**, D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches
5. children from K-12th grade how to resist peer pressure. [About]
6. **Whereas**, D.A.R.E. teaches kids how to live a productive drug and violence free
7. life. [About]
8. **Whereas**, D.A.R.E. gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs,
9. gangs, and violence. [About]
10. **Whereas**, DARE teaches kids critical decision-making skills that will last them a
11. lifetime. [About]
12. **Whereas**, D.A.R.E. is being implemented in approximately 70% percent of our
13. nation's school districts. [About]
14. **Whereas**, D.A.R.E. is also implemented in 83 other countries around the world.
15. [About]
16. **Whereas**, during the 2007-2008 school year, there were 57 elementary, middle,
17. and high schools, distributed between 16 school districts, in Alaska that received
18. the D.A.R.E. program. [Sweetman]
19. **Whereas**, today gangs exist in every state and in 1970, gangs existed in less than
20. half of the states. [Teen]
21. **Whereas**, 35% of suburban countries reported gang activity in 2001. [Gang]
22. **Whereas**, 20% of cities with the population of 2,500 to 24,999 reported gang
23. violence in 2001. [Gang]
24. **Whereas**, underage drinking cost the United States more than \$58 million dollars
25. annually. [Troubling]
26. **Whereas**, alcohol kills 6 ½ times more teenagers than all other illicit drugs
27. combined. [Statistics*]
28. **Whereas**, in Alaska alcohol is the primary substance of abuse and is the leading
29. cause of violence, suicide, and accidental deaths. [Sweetman]
30. **Whereas**, teens who drink are 50 times more likely to use cocaine than teens who
31. never consume alcohol. [Statistics*]
32. **Whereas**, Alaskans spends approximately 614 million dollars on
33. illegal drugs and alcohol a year. [About, McDowell Group, Inc. Economic Cost of
34. Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse in Alaska, Phase Two Report, November 13,
35. 2001]
36. **Whereas**, in February 2007 the Alaska Interdiction Task Force seized 6200 pills
37. of ecstasy and three kilograms of cocaine from various ports of entry into Alaska.
38. [Alaska State Troopers Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement Annual

37. Report, 2007]
38. **Whereas**, in Alaska the percentage of first time marijuana users before the age of
39. 13 is 11.9%; being a higher percentage than the national average (8.7%).[Alaska
40. Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 2007]
41. **Whereas**, 9.5% of high school students nationwide have used cocaine at least
42. once in their lifetime. [Drug]
43. **Whereas**, in 2000, more than 2 million youths aged 12 to 17 reported using
44. inhalants at least once in their lifetime.[Drug]
45. **Whereas**, during the 2007-2008 school year, there was a 29% increase in the
46. number of certified D.A.R.E. officers statewide.[Sweetman]
47. **Whereas**, there was a 12% increase in D.A.R.E. police agencies throughout
48. Alaska.[Sweetman]
49. **Whereas**, there was a 29% increase in the number of school districts with the
50. D.A.R.E. program in Alaska. [Sweetman]
51. **Whereas**, there was a 59% increase of Alaska communities that have adopted the
52. D.A.R.E program. [Sweetman]
53. **Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments**
54. **that all schools throughout Alaska who do not have the DARE program**
55. **within their school districts should provide this or a similar drug and alcohol**
56. **awareness program for their students.**

Action Statement: Please send this resolution to the Alaska State School Board,
Office of Governor Palin, House of Representatives, State Senate, and all city
school boards.

“About D.A.R.E.” 1996. D.A.R.E America. 12 September 2008.

<[www.http://www.dare.com/home/about_dare.asp](http://www.dare.com/home/about_dare.asp) > [1]

“Gang Statistics.” 2003. 14 September 2008. <www.urbanministry.org/wiki/gang-statistics> [12]

“Drug and Alcohol Use Statistics.” 2007. Adolescent Substance Abuse Knowledge Base. 14
September 2008. <<http://www.adolescent-substance-abuse.com/statistics-drug-abuse.html>>

“Statistics on Teens.” 2008. Sound Vision Foundation, Inc. 12 September 2008.

<<http://www.soundvision.com/Info/teens/stat.asp>> [4]

“Statistics on Teenage Drug Use.” 2004. 12 September 2008.

<http://www.teendrugabuse.us/teen_drug_use.html> [10]*

“Sweetman, Naomi.” State DARE Coordinator. 15 September 2008. <www.darealaska.com>

“Troubling Teen Drug Use Statistics.” 2004. 12 September 2008.

<<http://www.teendrugabuse.us/teendrugstatistics.html>> [2]

“Teen Gang Involvement.” 2008. Teen Help. 12 September 2008.

<<http://www.teenhelp.com/teen-violence/teen-gang-involvement.html>> [6]