

Members, Senate State Affairs Committee,

As Mayor of Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) I am very concerned with the current relocation of the F-16 fighters. The strategic and operational advantages for this most northern USAF base are extremely important geographically and operationally. In addition, as my office undertakes a review of the impacts and review of known funding issues, I have heard numerous overview discussions before the US Senate that causes me to question the basis for this action. Understanding there is a congressional budget reduction called for and seen in the FY 13 funding proposals, the proposed Air Force savings that might be achieved with this relocation appear to be reused AF numbers from the 2005 BRAC that were shown to be inaccurate then and would be so now. I ask you to move this resolution forward so the AK Legislature can fully act on the passage of SJR20.

Luke Hopkins
Mayor, FNSB