ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Honorable Representative Neal Foster Co-Chair Honorable Representative Gabrielle LeDoux Co-Chair House Military and Veterans Affairs Room 120, State Capitol Juneau AK 99801

### **HCR NO. 2 Purple Heart State**

# Sponsor Statement February 6, 2013

HCR 2 proclaims Alaska as a Purple Heart State, honoring the service and sacrifices of our nation's men and women in uniform wounded or killed by the enemy while serving to protect the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans.

Veterans have paid the high price of freedom by leaving their families and placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and the people of the State of Alaska have a great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all men and women who have selflessly served their country and this state in the Armed Forces.

The resolution finds that many citizens of our state have earned the Purple Heart Medal as a result of being wounded while engaged in combat with an enemy force, which is recognized as a singularly meritorious act of essential service; and, other men and women in uniform from Alaska gave their lives while serving our country.

As the home state to these heroes who have valiantly served our nation, it is fitting that Alaska become a Purple Heart State.