



# House Joint Resolution 33



Urging the Alaska delegation in Congress to pursue the establishment of a US Coast Guard port in the Arctic region; supporting the increase in defensive capabilities in the Arctic region; and encouraging the development of critical Arctic infrastructure.

Sponsor(s): Tuck, Millet, Kawasaki



## Purpose and Scope of Brief



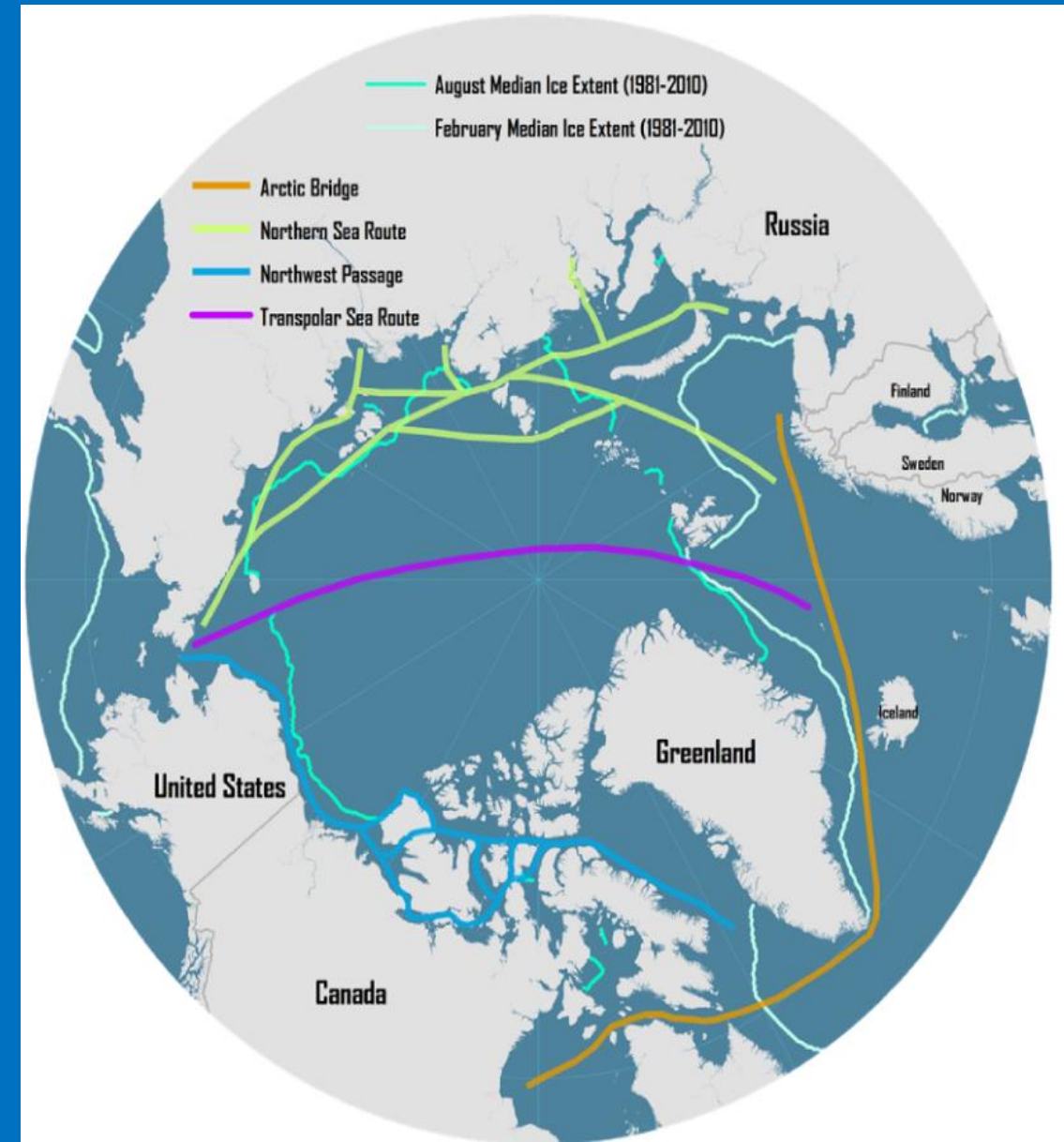
- Introduce HJR 33 to AET Committee
- Cover evolving situation in the Arctic
- Provide primary sources and relevant information to support claims
- Discuss benefits of port to the state
- Major challenges impeding implementation



# The Evolving Arctic



- Receding polar sea ice
- New sea lanes present economic opportunities, but defensive liabilities
- Reduces intercontinental routes by as much as 5,000 miles

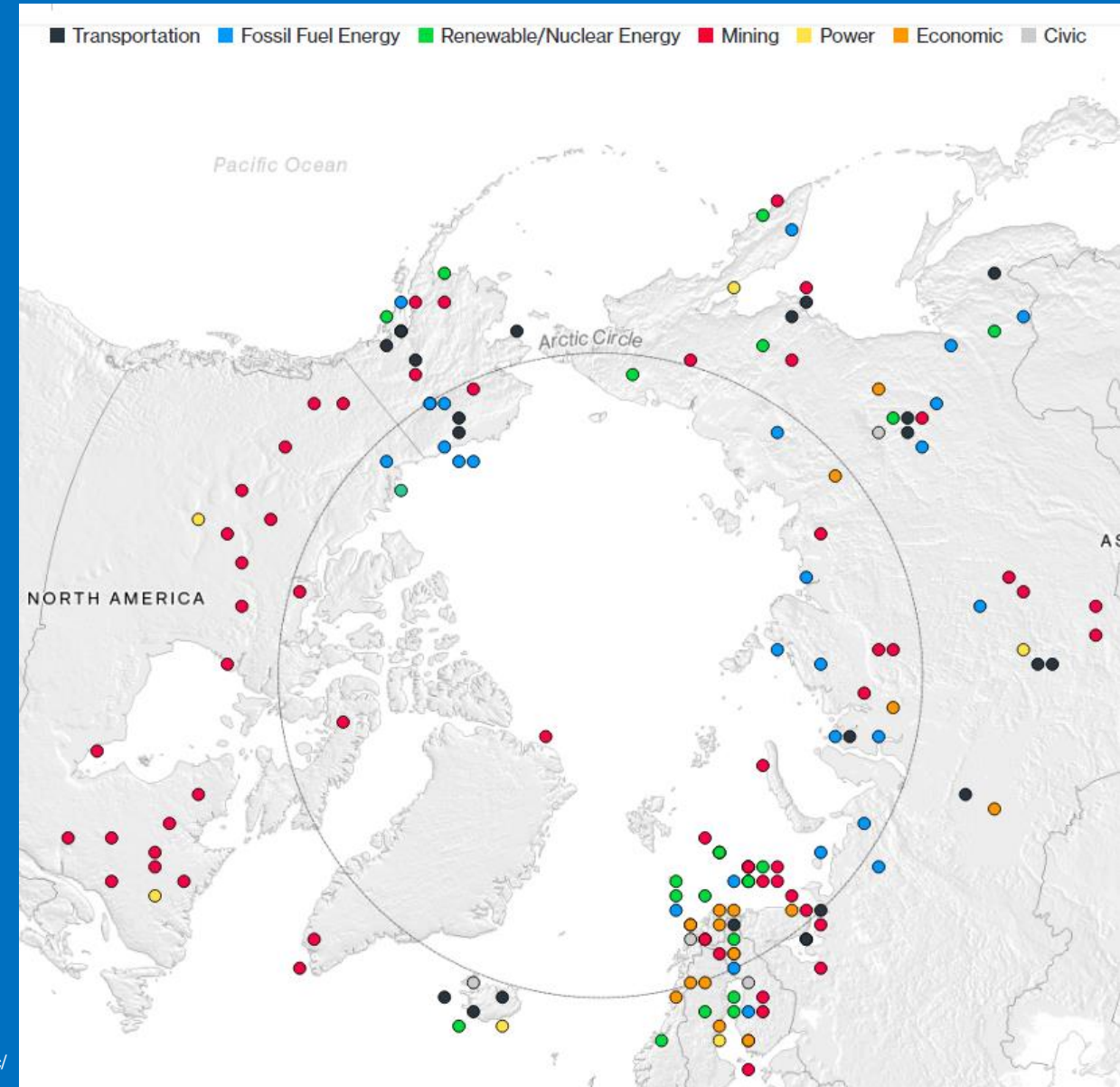




# The Evolving Arctic



- Extensive economic development opportunities
- 13% of world's undiscoverable oil and 30% of the world's natural gas lies in circumpolar Arctic
- Arctic resources already play large role in Russian economy



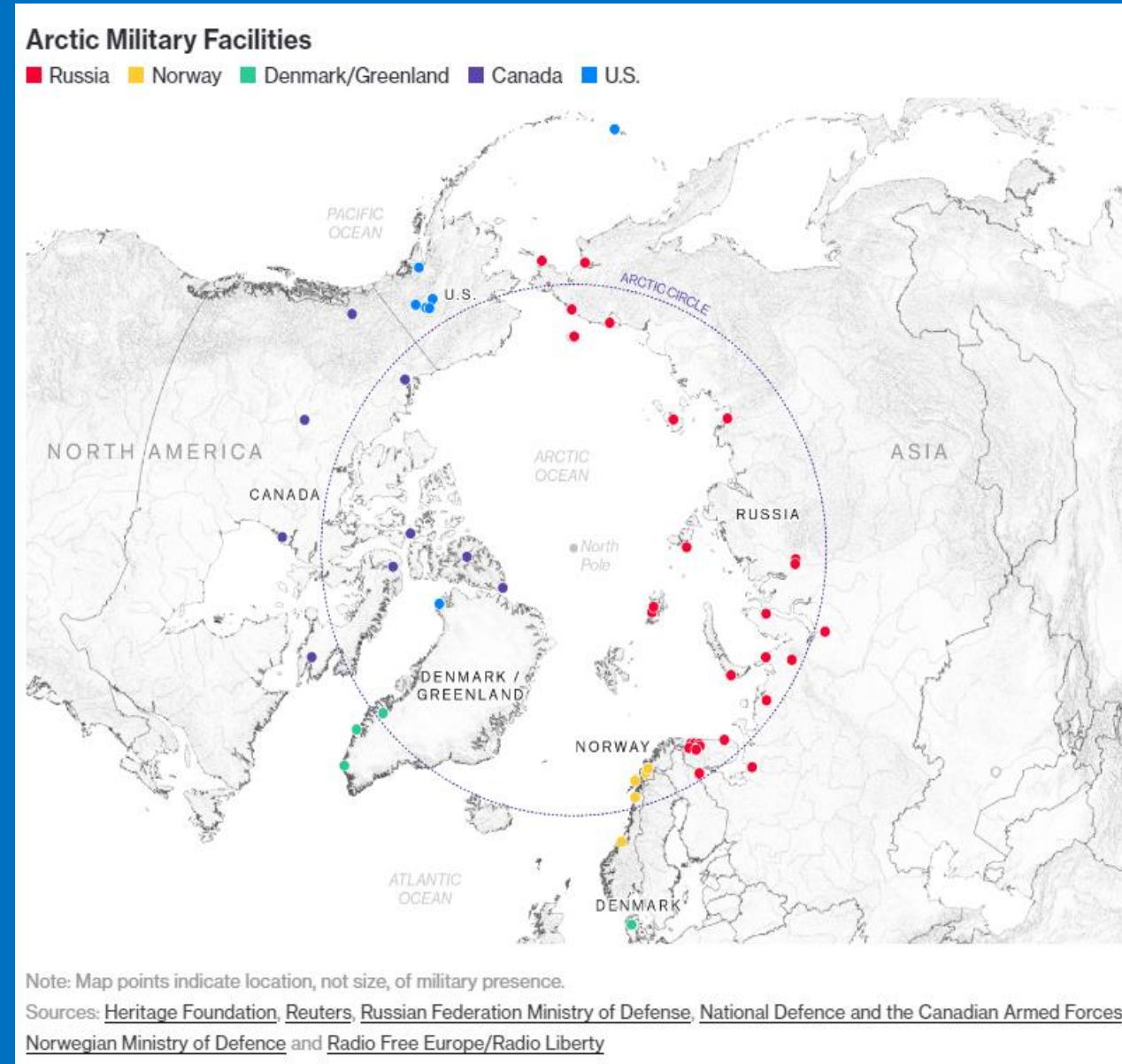




# The Evolving Arctic



- Russia by far the leader in Arctic military installations
- US has no federal military installations north of Arctic Circle
- Military installations line NSR and NWSR



Source: <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2017-arctic/the-political-arctic/>



# The Evolving Arctic—China



- China declares itself a “Near Arctic State”
- Seeks to build a “Polar Silk Road”
- Desires to participate “in regulating and managing the affairs” of the Arctic
- Has built icebreaker vessel

www.news.cn  
新华网  
XINHUANET  
Thursday, February 15, 2018  
Editions  
Xinhuanet App

## Full text: China's Arctic Policy

Source: Xinhua | 2018-01-26 13:23:52 | Editor: La Hui

BEIJING, Jan. 26 (Xinhua) -- The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China published a white paper titled "China's Arctic Policy" on Friday.

Following is the full text of the white paper:

**China's Arctic Policy**

**The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China**

**January 2018**

**First Edition 2018**

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Foreword

I. The Arctic Situation and Recent Changes

II. China and the Arctic

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IV. China's Policies and Positions on Participating in Arctic Affairs

1. Deepening the exploration and understanding of the Arctic

2. Protecting the eco-environment of the Arctic and addressing climate change

3. Utilizing Arctic Resources in a Lawful and Rational Manner

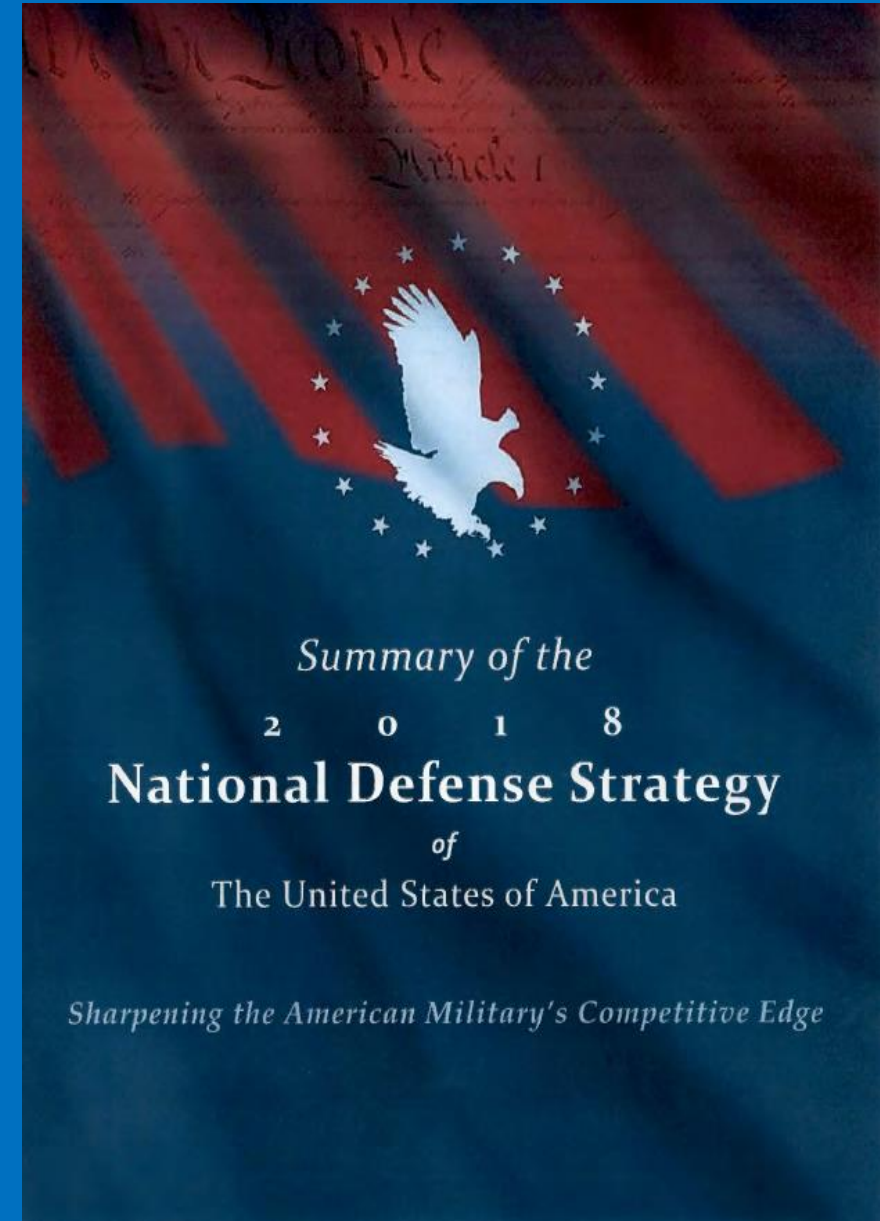
4. Participating Actively in Arctic governance and international cooperation



# The Evolving Arctic—Role within National Strategy



- Inter-state strategic competition replaces terrorism as primary concern
- China and Russia mentioned throughout document as “*revisionist powers*”
- A main objective is to maintain regional balance of power





# Benefits to State of Alaska

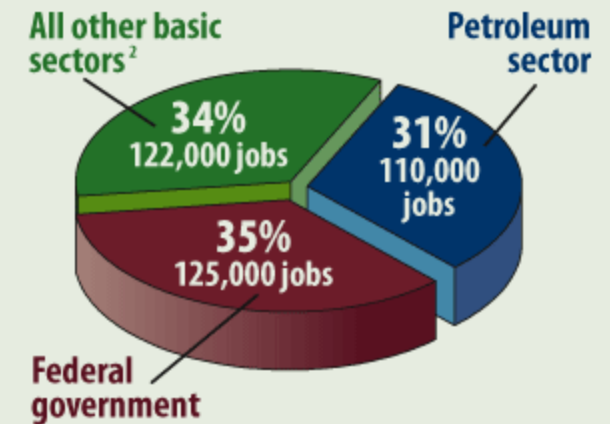


2013

- Federal investment good for Alaskan economy
- Military installations employ diverse set of occupations

## What generates jobs for Alaska residents?<sup>1</sup>

(Annual Average Number of Jobs for Residents, 2004-2006: 357,000)



<sup>1</sup>Excludes jobs held by non-residents. <sup>2</sup>Seafood, tourism, mining, timber, international air cargo, and personal assets from outside Alaska (primarily federal retirement benefits).

Source: <https://jmoore72.wordpress.com/type/image/>





# Benefits to State of Alaska



- Will support TAG's vision for DMVA
- Will increase joint capabilities in Arctic
- Increases emergency response, making the Arctic safer

## DMVA Vision and Core Values



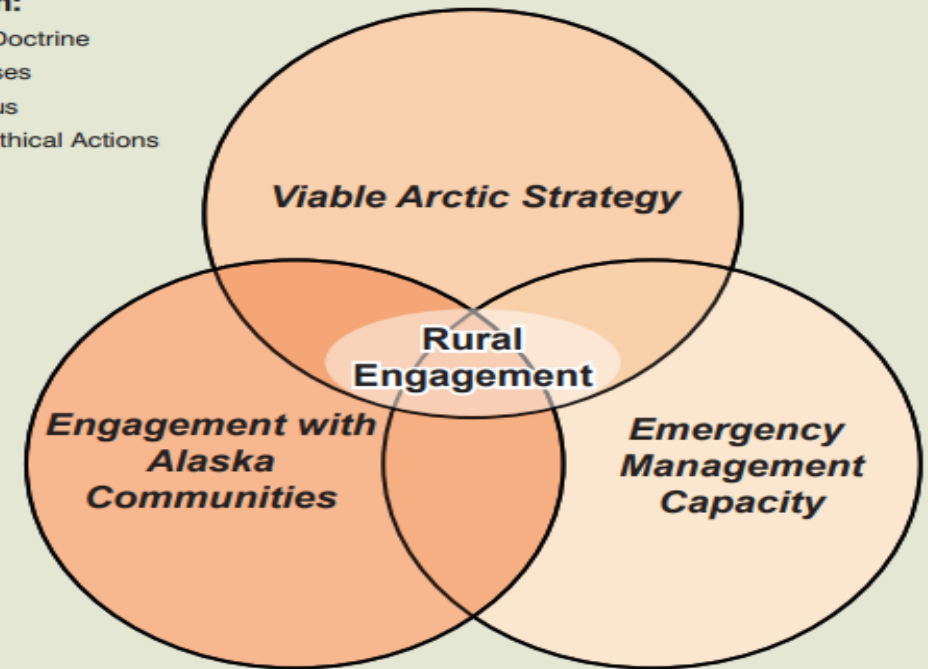
**Vision:** Through constant collaboration internally and with external partners, the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs implements a viable Arctic strategy, increases emergency management capacity and expands engagement with Alaska communities all while achieving federal mission assurance.

- **Core Values**

- Professionalism "Be the real deal"
- Commitment "All oars in the water ..."
- Teamwork "... rowing the same direction"

- **We will rely on:**

- Adherence to Doctrine
- Sound Processes
- Customer Focus
- Moral, Legal, Ethical Actions
- Transparency





# Major Challenges



- US, as a whole, not embracing its role as an Arctic nation
- Extended time-horizons for construction in region
- The number of threats currently facing the nation



## Recap



- Covered the evolving tensions and rising opportunities in the Arctic.
- Examined primary documents from federal agencies.
- Discussed benefits to state economy as well as state military missions.



# QUESTIONS?