

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES MULDER, Murkowski, Kott, James, Phillips, Foster, Green, Kemplen, Dyson, Ogan, Hudson

SENATORS Tim Kelly, Mackie, Leman, Wilken, Donley, Taylor, Pete Kelly, Phillips

Introduced: 2/26/99

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

**1 Relating to new evaluation and selection criteria for military base realignment and
2 closure actions.**

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

4 WHEREAS the Secretary of the United States Department of Defense has called for
5 the reestablishment of a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission to conduct two
6 new rounds of military base closures beginning in 2001; and

7 WHEREAS, under the process established for the BRAC Commissions in 1991, 1993,
8 and 1995, each of the armed services developed categories for its own bases and evaluated
9 and ranked each of its bases within those categories by applying criteria established by the
10 United States Department of Defense and the Congress; and

11 WHEREAS these single-service evaluations severely restricted the opportunity to
12 consider the effect of a base's closure on the operational readiness of the United States
13 Department of Defense's total force; and

14 WHEREAS the shortcomings of this single-service approach were recognized by the
15 1993 BRAC Commission that recommended that the United States Department of Defense
16 develop procedures for considering potential joint or common activities among the services

1 in several training and support areas; and

2 **WHEREAS** this recommendation led to the creation in 1994 of Joint Cross-Service
3 Groups that worked with the services in the five functional areas of depot maintenance,
4 military medical treatment facilities, test and evaluation, undergraduate pilot training, and
5 laboratories, in preparation for the 1995 BRAC round; and

6 **WHEREAS** the strategic challenges now facing the United States as we enter the new
7 century may require an even greater emphasis on creating and fielding a fully integrated total
8 force capable of projecting our nation's military power around the world from bases within
9 our country's borders; and

10 **WHEREAS** this military force structure should be supported by a military base
11 structure that is focused on strategic mobility, joint operations, and joint training
12 considerations in addition to individual service considerations;

13 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
14 President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Secretary of the United
15 States Department of Defense to establish new Joint Cross-Service Groups this year to study
16 issues of power projection and deployment, joint training, joint operations, and other total
17 force considerations; and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that these Joint Cross-
19 Service Groups then be directed to develop new evaluation and selection criteria and
20 procedures based on their findings to be incorporated into any future base realignment and
21 closure proceedings to ensure that total force and power projection factors are major military
22 value considerations in base structure decisions.

23 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
24 United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President
25 of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tem of the U.S. Senate;
26 the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable
27 William S. Cohen, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Defense; and to the Honorable Ted
28 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
29 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.