

**CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17(STA)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/21/01

Referred: Rules

**Sponsor(s): SENATORS DONLEY, Halford, Leman, Kelly, Taylor, Ward, Cowdery, Phillips, Therriault, Austerman, Green**

**REPRESENTATIVES Croft, Kohring, Dyson, Hayes, Harris, Halcro, Green, Ogan, Meyer, James, Masek**

**A RESOLUTION**

1   **Relating to requesting that President Bush renounce and reverse Clinton**  
2   **Administration anti-gun-ownership policies and reorient the United States Department**  
3   **of Justice towards policies that accurately reflect the intent of the Second Amendment to**  
4   **the United States Constitution to grant individual Americans the right to keep and bear**  
5   **arms.**

6   **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

7       **WHEREAS** the founding fathers considered popular ownership of firearms by private  
8    citizens to be a natural right and one of the surest safeguards against tyranny and  
9    governmental excesses; and

10       **WHEREAS** the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution recognizes and  
11    protects the inalienable right of American citizens to keep and bear arms; and

12       **WHEREAS**, in 1994, art. I, sec. 19, Constitution of the State of Alaska, was amended  
13    by an overwhelming majority to specifically protect an Alaskan's individual right to keep and  
14    bear arms; and

15       **WHEREAS** the Clinton Administration's stance on gun ownership moved

1 dangerously in the direction of abridging or eliminating individual Second Amendment  
2 freedoms; and

3 **WHEREAS**, under the Clinton Administration, the United States Department of  
4 Justice interpreted the Second Amendment to not protect the right of individual citizens to  
5 keep and bear arms but to apply only to governmentally recognized military organizations;  
6 and

7 **WHEREAS** the Clinton Administration's stance on gun ownership intentionally  
8 ignored the original intent of the Constitution's framers and sought to dramatically limit the  
9 Constitutionally affirmed Second Amendment freedoms of individual law-abiding Americans;

10 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges President Bush to  
11 renounce the Clinton Administration's anti-gun ownership policies; and be it

12 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests President Bush to  
13 use his executive powers and influence to reorient the United States Department of Justice  
14 towards a policy that fully recognizes the right of individual Americans to keep and bear arms  
15 as guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President  
17 of the United States; the Honorable Richard B. Cheney, Vice-President of the United States  
18 and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the U.S.  
19 Senate; the Honorable Thomas Daschle, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J.  
20 Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard  
21 Gephardt, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable John  
22 Ashcroft, Attorney General of the United States; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the  
23 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.  
24 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.