

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS LEMAN, Donley, Taylor, Wilken, Ward, Austerman

REPRESENTATIVES Foster, Wilson, Murkowski

Introduced: 1/29/01

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the development and deployment of the National Missile Defense System.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the proliferation by foreign nations and organizations of weapons of
4 mass destruction and of the technology for long-range missiles is a growing danger to all 50
5 states; and

6 **WHEREAS** this threat was demonstrated on August 31, 1998, when North Korea
7 flight-tested a long-range missile over Japan, and the missile splashed down in the Pacific
8 Ocean, clearly showing the danger ballistic missiles pose to Alaska and other states on the
9 west coast of the United States; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in response to this growing threat, the United States has initiated the
11 National Missile Defense Program to protect all 50 states from foreign ballistic missile attack;
12 and

13 **WHEREAS** Alaska is strategically located because of its close proximity to east Asia
14 and Europe, and is the only state from which the entire United States can be defended; and

15 **WHEREAS** the developers of the National Missile Defense System have identified
16 several sites in Alaska as preferred alternatives for the location of major components of the

1 system, including the radar site and intercept vehicles; and

2 **WHEREAS** construction contracts for the National Missile Defense System were not
3 approved by President Clinton in 2000, delaying the construction schedule; and

4 **WHEREAS** barges carrying material to begin construction on a Shemya Island radar
5 site could still embark this year; and

6 **WHEREAS** President George W. Bush and members of his cabinet have indicated
7 their strong support for the development of a National Missile Defense System;

8 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature calls upon the President of the
9 United States to direct the United States Department of Defense to develop and deploy the
10 National Missile Defense System as soon as technologically possible.

11 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President
12 of the United States; the Honorable Donald Rumsfeld, United States Secretary of Defense; the
13 Honorable John Warner, Chair, U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee; the Honorable Bob
14 Stump, Chair, U.S. House Armed Services Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and
15 the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
16 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.