

# STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2003

Source  
CSHJR 14(STA)

Legislative  
Resolve No.  
26



Urging that the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games be held in Anchorage, Alaska.

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

**WHEREAS** wheelchair sports play an important role in the lives of disabled people;  
and

**WHEREAS** the National Veterans Wheelchair Games is a multi-event sports and rehabilitation program for military service veterans who use wheelchairs for sports competitions due to spinal cord injuries, amputations, or certain neurological problems; and

**WHEREAS** the National Veterans Wheelchair Games provide opportunities for newly disabled veterans to gain sports skills and associate with other wheelchair athletes; and

**WHEREAS** the National Veterans Wheelchair Games is the largest annual wheelchair sporting event in the world; and

**WHEREAS** the United States Department of Veterans Affairs sponsored the National Veterans Wheelchair Games from 1981 through 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1985, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Paralyzed Veterans of America have co-sponsored the National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and

**WHEREAS** the 2002 National Veterans Wheelchair Games drew more than 500 competing veterans; and

**WHEREAS** the sponsors are tentatively planning to hold the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Anchorage, Alaska; and

**WHEREAS** 550 to 600 disabled veterans are expected to participate in the week-long events that are part of the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and

**WHEREAS** the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games are expected to bring approximately 1,300 to 1,500 visitors, participants, and families to the Municipality of Anchorage; and

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of Anchorage is a warm, hospitable, wheelchair accessible city with plenty of space for accommodating visitors, families, and participants in the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of Anchorage is within driving distance of many parts of the state, which offers all visitors, families, and participants tremendous recreational viewing, wildlife, sporting, cultural, and other visitor opportunities;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges Anthony J. Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and Joseph L. Fox, Sr., President of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, to hold the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Anchorage, Alaska.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald Rumsfeld, United States Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Anthony Principi, United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs; the Honorable Craig Campbell, Adjutant General, Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs; Joseph L. Fox, Sr., President, Paralyzed Veterans of America; the Honorable George Wuerch, Mayor of the Municipality of Anchorage; the Honorable Mark Begich, Mayor-elect of the Municipality of Anchorage; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.