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Nauman
2/23/15

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE HERRON

A RESOLUTION

Declaring 2015, 2016, and 2017 to be the Years of the Arctic; encouraging the state and its partners to join with the Institute of the North in encouraging the state to promote its Arctic policy during the Years of the Arctic and to take action to address the strategic recommendations in the Arctic Policy and Implementation Plan of the Alaska Arctic Policy Commission.

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

WHEREAS residents of the state are at the forefront of emerging economic and resource development opportunities, vibrant healthy communities, and circumpolar cooperation; and

WHEREAS the vision of the state for the Arctic is based on economic resource development, a healthy environment, secure and safe communities, and transparent decision making; and

WHEREAS the Arctic is an integral part of the identity of the state, home to many residents of the state, and an important part of the history, culture, and prosperity of the state; and

1 **WHEREAS** the Arctic is a significant geopolitical feature of the nation; and

2 **WHEREAS** the Arctic is becoming increasingly accessible, presenting a multitude of
3 opportunities that should be realized; and

4 **WHEREAS** the draft Arctic Policy and Implementation Plan, released by the Alaska
5 Arctic Policy Commission, highlights the critical importance of the Arctic to the future of the
6 state; and

7 **WHEREAS** there is a need to strengthen international collaboration, promote
8 economic and resource development, and continue to cultivate healthy communities and a
9 healthy environment in the Arctic; and

10 **WHEREAS** the United States will chair the Arctic Council from April 2015 to
11 May 2017; and

12 **WHEREAS** the state should anticipate increased national and international attention
13 during this period;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature declares 2015, 2016, and 2017
15 to be the Years of the Arctic, a period during which the state should make every effort to
16 highlight the importance of the Arctic to residents of the state and nation; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the state and
18 its partners to join with the Institute of the North in encouraging the state to promote its Arctic
19 policy and broadening awareness of Arctic issues; and be it

20 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the state to
21 promote its Arctic policy during the Years of the Arctic and to take action to address the
22 strategic recommendations in the Arctic Policy and Implementation Plan of the Alaska Arctic
23 Policy Commission.