

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1988

Source

HCS SCR 34(SA) am H

Legislative
Resolve No.

66



Relating to the establishment of a commission on Alaskan-Soviet relations.

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

WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union, recognizing the desires of the citizens of their countries, signed an agreement in 1986 encouraging people-to-people exchanges between the two countries; and

WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union have signed a medical research agreement giving the University of Alaska the responsibility and authority to teach, develop, research, and coordinate circumpolar interests between the United States and the Siberian branch of the Academy of Medical Sciences in the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS the United States and Soviet Union agreed in December 1987 to establish bilateral groups to work on Arctic issues; and

WHEREAS Alaskans and the Soviet Union are each seeking closer ties with the other as evidenced by the travel of Alaska's Performers for Peace to the Soviet Union, by the efforts of citizens of Alaska and of the Soviet Union to bring Siberians to the St. Lawrence Island Whaling Festival and the Eskimo-Indian Olympics, and by the agreement of the Soviet Union to consider proposals for airline traffic between Alaska and Siberia; and

WHEREAS it would be consistent with and supportive of the efforts of the United States and the Soviet Union to improve understanding between the two countries to stimulate travel, trade, and cultural and scientific exchange between Alaska and Siberia; and

WHEREAS achievement of these goals will be dependent in part

upon a continuing effort by Alaskans to identify fully these specific objectives so that they may be pursued through appropriate channels;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the Governor to appoint a nine person commission on Alaska-Soviet relations to explore and identify areas of mutually beneficial interactions and to prepare findings and recommendations for the Governor and the legislature; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to make appointments to the commission from government, civic, academic, cultural, labor, and business leaders of the state; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to instruct the commission to examine the cultural and historical relationship of Alaska to the Soviet Union and to investigate areas of mutually beneficial relationships between the people of the state and our Siberian neighbors; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to direct the commission to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and legislature by July 1, 1989.