

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

1992

Source
HCS CSSJR 41(ITT)

Legislative
Resolve No.
92



Relating to the use of Alaska facilities for year-round training for national and international sports teams.

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

WHEREAS Alaska is endowed with a climate and geography that provides excellent opportunities for recreation and amateur sports training, particularly winter sports; and

WHEREAS Alaska has, for several decades, been a major training and competition center for the U.S. biathlon team, alpine skiing, hockey, cross-country skiing, sled dog racing, and many other sports in Fairbanks, Juneau, and Anchorage; and

WHEREAS Alaska has produced over 30 Olympic athletes, including Hilary Lindh of Juneau who recently won the silver medal in the women's downhill race at the 16th Winter Olympic Games in France; and

WHEREAS millions of dollars in funding from the state government, national and state sports governing bodies, and the private sector have created in Alaska such world class training and recreational facilities as the Eagle Glacier Nordic Training Center in Girdwood, Kincaid Park in Anchorage, Hatcher Pass in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and Birch Hill Park in Fairbanks that are capable of hosting state, national, and international team training;

and

WHEREAS year-round use of Alaska's natural resources and facilities by national and international sports teams has considerable positive social and health effects on the athletes, coaches, and officials in Alaska; and

WHEREAS Alaska would receive substantial economic benefits from hosting team training and national and international sports competitions associated with team training in the state; and

WHEREAS the legislature created the Alaska Amateur Sports Authority in 1989 to promote and develop amateur sports, including training facilities and competitions; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that charge, the authority is developing the Alaska Sports Training and Education Center in conjunction with the Eagle Glacier Nordic Training Center, Kincaid Park, Hatcher Pass facilities, Birch Hill Park, Alaska Pacific University, and the University of Alaska;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature invites the U.S. biathlon team, the U.S. cross-country team, the U.S. junior development teams, and other state, national, and international sports governing bodies to send individuals and teams to Alaska to make use of its year-round training and educational opportunities; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Governor to encourage the Governor's Office, Department of Commerce and Economic Development, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Education, Alaska Amateur Sports Authority, state amateur sports organizations, and other public and private entities to review their options for attracting national and international sports teams to Alaska for training and competition development.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the U.S. Biathlon Association; the U.S. Ski Association; the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States; the Amateur Hockey Association of the United States; the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics; the National Collegiate Athletic Association; the National Junior College Athletic Association; the U.S. Figure Skating Association; the United States Curling Association; the United States International Speed Skating Association; the U.S. Bobsled and Skeleton Federation; the Honorable Jerry Covey, commissioner of education; the Honorable Glenn A. Olds,

commissioner of commerce and economic development; the Honorable Harold C. Heinze, commissioner of natural resources; the director of the division of tourism, Department of Commerce and Economic Development; the Anchorage Olympic Organizing Committee; and the Alaska Amateur Sports Authority.