

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 356(MLV)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

**Offered: 3/20/98
Referred: Finance**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MULDER, Dyson, Foster, Croft, Ivan

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

**1 "An Act establishing the Joint Committee on Military Bases in Alaska; and
2 providing for an effective date."**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

4 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

**5 (1) the Secretary of Defense, in both the Quadrennial Defense Review and the
6 Defense Reform Initiative, has called for the reestablishment of a Base Realignment and
7 Closure Commission (BRAC) to conduct two new rounds of military base closures;**

**8 (2) all military bases in Alaska are scheduled for review and evaluation for
9 potential placement on the closure list;**

**10 (3) the strategic location of the state's military bases, their unparalleled training
11 and maneuver areas, and their modern facilities represent an asset of unmatched military value
12 to the nation;**

**13 (4) the total economic value the military adds to the state exceeds
14 \$1,700,000,000 annually;**

1 (5) any new base closure or realignment actions in the state would create
2 serious economic and socioeconomic effects for the communities where they are located; and

3 (6) the closure of Adak Naval Air Facility and realignment of army activities
4 at Fort Greely by the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission continues to create
5 challenges for communities committed to their productive reuse and integration into the state's
6 economy.

7 * **Sec. 2. JOINT COMMITTEE ON MILITARY BASES IN ALASKA.** (a) The Joint
8 Committee on Military Bases in Alaska is established as a permanent interim committee of
9 the legislature.

10 (b) The committee is composed of

11 (1) three members of the senate appointed by the president of the senate of the
12 Twentieth Alaska State Legislature;

13 (2) three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of
14 the house of representatives of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature;

15 (3) an individual who is a state resident and appointed jointly by the president
16 of the senate of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature and the speaker of the house of
17 representatives of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature after considering the recommendation
18 of the mayor of the Municipality of Anchorage;

19 (4) an individual who is a state resident and appointed jointly by the president
20 of the senate of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature and the speaker of the house of
21 representatives of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature after considering the recommendation
22 of the mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough; and

23 (5) an individual who is a state resident and appointed jointly by the president
24 of the senate of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature and the speaker of the house of
25 representatives of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature after considering the recommendation
26 of the commissioner of military and veterans' affairs.

27 (c) Members serve until the committee terminates.

28 (d) When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the committee, the presiding officer
29 of the house incurring the vacancy shall fill the vacancy within 30 days. If the office of the
30 presiding officer becomes vacant and a vacancy occurs among the members of the committee,
31 the remaining committee members from the house incurring the vacancy shall appoint a new

1 member.

2 (e) The committee shall

3 (1) monitor the military base realignment and closure activities of the federal
4 government for bases in the state;

5 (2) work on specific realignments and closures proposed by the federal
6 government for bases in the state;

7 (3) work with the state's congressional delegation regarding federal military
8 base realignments and closings in the state;

9 (4) attend meetings and hearings related to federal realignments and closures
10 of military bases in the state and provide testimony as necessary; and

11 (5) review the effect on the state and its communities of federal realignments
12 and closures of military bases in the state.

13 (f) Five members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee to do
14 business. The committee members select the chair of the committee.

15 (g) The committee may meet during sessions of the legislature and during intervals
16 between sessions at the times and places as the chair of the committee may determine and
17 may hold public hearings as necessary.

18 (h) Members of the committee receive the same travel and per diem allowances
19 provided by law for members of the legislature.

20 (i) The committee shall prepare and submit a report of its activities to the legislature
21 before the convening of the First Session of the Twenty-Second Alaska State Legislature.

22 (j) The committee terminates on the day the Twenty-Second Alaska State Legislature
23 convenes.

24 (k) In this section, "committee" means the Joint Committee on Military Bases in
25 Alaska.

26 * **Sec. 3.** This Act is repealed on the day the Twenty-Second Alaska State Legislature
27 convenes.

28 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).