

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 40**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced: 5/2/97

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Relating to the defense of Alaska from ballistic missile attack.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** Alaska, as one of the states of the United States of America, is provided  
4 the same constitutional safeguards, including provision for the common defense, that are  
5 afforded to the other 49 states; and

6 **WHEREAS** Alaska possesses natural resources, both material and human, vital to the  
7 prosperity and national security of the United States; and

8 **WHEREAS** Alaska's location places it in a more vulnerable position than other states  
9 with regard to ballistic missiles that could be launched by aggressors in Asia and Russia; and

10 **WHEREAS** there is a growing threat to Alaska by potential aggressors in Asia and  
11 Russia and in rogue nations that may be gaining the capability to launch long-range missiles  
12 armed with weapons of mass destruction; and

13 **WHEREAS** ballistic missile defense technology exists to help defend Alaska from  
14 threats by potential aggressors; and

15 **WHEREAS**, despite the availability of Congressional authorization to fund deployment  
16 of this technology, the Executive Branch has decided not to use these defenses to provide  
17 adequate defense for Alaska; and

1           **WHEREAS** the Executive Branch is relying on a National Intelligence Estimate that  
2 considered the ballistic missile threat to the contiguous United States, but did not consider the  
3 threat to Alaska and Hawaii;

4           **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges the President of  
5 the United States to include Alaska in every National Intelligence Estimate conducted by the  
6 United States joint intelligence agencies that assess the capability of all nations to launch, or  
7 threaten to launch, ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction against  
8 the United States; and be it

9           **FURTHER RESOLVED** that Alaska strongly urges the President of the United States  
10 and the United States Congress to take all necessary measures, including deployment of a  
11 ballistic missile defense system, to ensure that Alaska is protected against all foreseeable  
12 threats from ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction that may be  
13 posed by foreign governments; and be it

14           **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests that  
15 the appropriate Congressional committees hold hearings in Alaska that include defense experts  
16 and administration officials to help Alaskans understand their risks, their level of security, and  
17 Alaska's vulnerability.

18           **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the  
19 United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President  
20 of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate  
21 and Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services; the Honorable Newt Gingrich,  
22 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Ted Stevens, Chair of the U.S.  
23 Senate Committee on Appropriations; the Honorable Floyd Spence, Chair of the U.S. House  
24 of Representatives Committee on National Security; the Honorable William Cohen, Secretary,  
25 Department of Defense; and to the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senator, and the  
26 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.