

**SENATE BILL NO. 255**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS KELLY, Wilken

Introduced: 1/23/98

Referred: State Affairs, Finance

**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 \$2,700,000,000 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) a member of the legislature appointed jointly by the president of the senate  
16 of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature and the speaker of the house of representatives of  
17 the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature after considering the recommendation of the mayor of  
18 the Municipality of Anchorage;

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

23 (5) a member of the legislature appointed jointly by the president of the senate  
24 of the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature and the speaker of the house of representatives of  
25 the Twentieth Alaska State Legislature after considering the recommendation of the  
26 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).