

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS MACKIE, Taylor, Duncan

Introduced: 2/16/98

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the bombardment of the village of Angoon.**

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

3 **WHEREAS**, on October 26, 1882, the United States Navy bombarded and burned the
4 village of Angoon; and

5 **WHEREAS** the attack resulted from a dispute between the village and a whaling
6 company over the accidental death of a tribal member; and

7 **WHEREAS** the smoke and fire created by the attack caused serious injuries and death
8 to members of the village; and

9 **WHEREAS** the attack destroyed all the homes and most food supplies in the village,
10 leaving the residents to face difficult winter conditions without shelter or sufficient food; and

11 **WHEREAS** the United States has never formally apologized to the descendants of the
12 survivors of the attack; and

13 **WHEREAS**, for the people of Angoon, closure cannot begin until an apology is given;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Honorable Bill
15 Clinton, President of the United States, to issue a formal apology to the village of Angoon.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
17 United States, and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.

- 1 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
- 2 delegation in Congress.