

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1999

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CSHJR 8(MLV) am S

Legislative
Resolve No.

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Relating to a national ballistic missile defense system.

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

WHEREAS the collapse of the Soviet Union has rendered obsolete the treaty constraints and diplomatic understandings that limited the development and deployment of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems during the Cold War; and

WHEREAS the world has consequently witnessed during this decade an unprecedented proliferation of sophisticated military technology, including nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and ballistic missiles; and

WHEREAS the United States has recognized that it currently has no means of protecting persons living in all 50 states from attack by these new threats and has initiated a program to develop and deploy a national ballistic missile defense system; and

WHEREAS four locations in Alaska are currently being considered as sites for deployment of the intercept vehicles for this system; and

WHEREAS each of these locations provides the unmatched military value of a strategic location from which persons living in all 50 states can be defended as required by the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, throughout Alaska's history as a territory and a state, Alaska's citizens

have been unwavering in their support of a strong national defense while warmly welcoming the men and women of our armed forces stationed in Alaska; and

WHEREAS construction, operation, and maintenance of a high technology missile defense system would require advanced labor skills; and

WHEREAS these high technology workers would increase Alaska's human asset base and provide a highly skilled labor force for use by private enterprise;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-First Alaska State Legislature calls upon the President, as Commander In Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, to provide for the common defense of our nation by selecting an Alaska site for the deployment of the intercept vehicles for the national ballistic missile defense system; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-First Alaska State Legislature requests that, in the development and operation of a national ballistic missile defense system in Alaska, the Department of Defense provide adequate protection from any danger posed by the system to local residents; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-First Alaska State Legislature strongly encourages the Department of Defense to contract with Alaska businesses in the development, construction, and operation of a national ballistic missile defense system in Alaska.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable William Cohen, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Defense; the Honorable Floyd D. Spence, Chair, Committee on Armed Services, U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable John Warner, Chair, Committee on Armed Services, U.S. Senate; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.