

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1999

Source
CSSJR 24(STA) am

Legislative
Resolve No.
20



Relating to the Kosovo conflict and to Alaskans serving in the military forces in the area of the conflict.

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

WHEREAS Slobodan Milosevic has embarked upon a policy of ethnic cleansing of Albanians in Kosovo, Yugoslavia; and

WHEREAS the actions of the Serbian military forces are a humanitarian disaster in the making and are not acceptable in the civilized world; and

WHEREAS the armed forces of the United States are currently participating in the campaign against Serbian forces in Kosovo to stop the ethnic cleansing activities; and

WHEREAS many of the United States troops that will be sent to the Balkans will be pulled away from civilian lives at great personal sacrifice; and

WHEREAS the Allied troops will be expected to endure many uncertainties and hardships caused by separation from their loved ones for months while stationed in the harsh conditions of the Balkan region; and

WHEREAS the tremendous humanitarian effort being taken by the Allied military force is an enormous service to mankind; and

WHEREAS members of our military forces are performing their mission with great

dispatch, exemplifying the high degree of dedication, professionalism, and training that underlines the technological and strategic superiority of our military strength; and

WHEREAS many of our United States troops are in danger, and the media reports that the public must be prepared to accept the possibility that there will be United States casualties; and

WHEREAS Alaskans in the military services have been called on to participate in the Kosovo conflict and are likely to be called on to serve there in increasing numbers; and

WHEREAS these Alaskans are and will be serving in the interest of the United States with dedication, honor, and commitment;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature

(1) commends the bravery and dedication of Alaska's military personnel and of all men and women who are serving in the Kosovo conflict; and

(2) applauds the extraordinary job being done by the United States and Allied military forces in saving lives by setting up tents and establishing refugee camps; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Alaska State Legislature express their heartfelt concern for the safety of United States military personnel in the conflict, and of the refugees who are fleeing Kosovo, and, therefore, urge President Clinton and the Congress to use whatever means available to bring the conflict to an end as soon as possible and in a manner that will help secure a just and lasting peace in the region; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Alaska Legislative Council to direct the Legislative Affairs Agency to send the following message to all Alaskans and military personnel stationed in Alaska who are serving in the United States armed forces in the Kosovo conflict: "The members of the Alaska State Legislature thank you heartily for your efforts in stopping the barbaric actions of Slobodan Milosevic in Kosovo and for laying a foundation for a just and lasting peace in the region. We commend your bravery and dedication. We wish you a safe and speedy return home."

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense; to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the

Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative; Brigadier General Dean Cash, Commanding General, U.S. Army, Alaska; Brigadier General Phillip Oates, Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard; and Colonel George Cannelos, Director, Alaska Air National Guard.