

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1999

Source
HJR 21

Legislative
Resolve No.
4



Relating to new evaluation and selection criteria for military base realignment and closure actions.

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

WHEREAS the Secretary of the United States Department of Defense has called for the reestablishment of a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission to conduct two new rounds of military base closures beginning in 2001; and

WHEREAS, under the process established for the BRAC Commissions in 1991, 1993, and 1995, each of the armed services developed categories for its own bases and evaluated and ranked each of its bases within those categories by applying criteria established by the United States Department of Defense and the Congress; and

WHEREAS these single-service evaluations severely restricted the opportunity to consider the effect of a base's closure on the operational readiness of the United States Department of Defense's total force; and

WHEREAS the shortcomings of this single-service approach were recognized by the 1993 BRAC Commission that recommended that the United States Department of Defense develop procedures for considering potential joint or common activities among the services

in several training and support areas; and

WHEREAS this recommendation led to the creation in 1994 of Joint Cross-Service Groups that worked with the services in the five functional areas of depot maintenance, military medical treatment facilities, test and evaluation, undergraduate pilot training, and laboratories, in preparation for the 1995 BRAC round; and

WHEREAS the strategic challenges now facing the United States as we enter the new century may require an even greater emphasis on creating and fielding a fully integrated total force capable of projecting our nation's military power around the world from bases within our country's borders; and

WHEREAS this military force structure should be supported by a military base structure that is focused on strategic mobility, joint operations, and joint training considerations in addition to individual service considerations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the Secretary of the United States Department of Defense to establish new Joint Cross-Service Groups this year to study issues of power projection and deployment, joint training, joint operations, and other total force considerations; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that these Joint Cross-Service Groups then be directed to develop new evaluation and selection criteria and procedures based on their findings to be incorporated into any future base realignment and closure proceedings to ensure that total force and power projection factors are major military value considerations in base structure decisions.

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 Tem 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 the U.S. Department of Defense; 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.