

STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE

2000

Source  
HCR 29

Legislative  
Resolve No.  
53



Opposing any prohibition against having election voting sites at military installations.

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

**WHEREAS** the United States Department of Defense has issued a directive to prohibit election voting sites at military installations; and

**WHEREAS** this directive would impede the voting process for citizens who live and work at military installations; and

**WHEREAS** the cumulative factors of time, distance, and potentially hostile climatic conditions in arctic and subarctic locations increase the risk of accidents; and

**WHEREAS** forcing residents at military installations to go off the installations to vote will tend to lower voter turnout; and

**WHEREAS** elimination of election sites at military installations will exacerbate crowding and waiting at election sites that are outside of military installations; and

**WHEREAS** base commanders may be able to exercise discretion to allow election sites based on local circumstances; and

**WHEREAS** some election sites on military installations are in non-federal facilities, such as schools and armories, that are operated by state or local governments; and

**WHEREAS** Alaska has a tradition since statehood of public voting on military

installations, and proposed changes will cause confusion and extra financial costs to the state; and

**WHEREAS** the State of Alaska seeks to be a supportive host to our military facilities, and this directive is counterproductive to mutual support between the state and the United States Department of Defense; and

**WHEREAS** the imposition of impediments to the exercise of civil rights for the same people who are sworn to uphold, defend, and sacrifice their lives for those rights is an absurdity and an affront to all Americans;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Twenty-First Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the President of the United States and the United States Secretary of Defense to countermand any directive that impedes the rights and practices of American citizens to vote at election sites at military installations.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; the Honorable William S. Cohen, U.S. Secretary of Defense; Lieutenant General Thomas R. Case, Commander, Alaskan Command, United States Air Force; Lieutenant General E. P. Smith, Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific; Major General Dean W. Cash, Commanding General, United States Army Alaska; 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.