

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2001

Source

CSSJR 14(STA)

**Legislative
Resolve No.**

18



Urging President Bush, the United States Department of State, and the United States Congress to intervene and negotiate with the government of Canada to reconsider the imposition of a fee to transport firearms through Canada.

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

WHEREAS Alaska is separated from the 48 contiguous states of the United States by Canada, and many Alaskans travel the Alaska, Taylor/Top of the World, Skagway/Klondike, and Cassiar Highways and other highways in Canada to reach the 48 contiguous states of the United States; and

WHEREAS Alaska borders the Yukon and British Columbia, Canadians engage in recreational activities in Alaska, and Alaskans engage in recreational activities in Canada; and

WHEREAS, in pursuit of these recreational opportunities, Alaskans enter Canada at locations, some of which do not have a border station or customs personnel permanently stationed; and

WHEREAS Alaska and the United States do not impose a fee for Canadians to transport firearms into Alaska or the United States to engage in recreational activities; and

WHEREAS the government of Canada recently adopted new regulations that require visitors to Canada not having a valid Canadian firearms license to declare their firearms before entering Canada at a Canadian customs station, complete a Non-Resident Firearm Declaration Form, and pay a \$50 (Canadian) confirmation fee; and

WHEREAS the imposition of this fee on Alaskans and those traveling to and from Alaska is inconvenient and unexpected, especially when considering that neither Alaska nor the United States has a reciprocal declaration and fee requirement;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges President Bush, the United States Department of State, and the United States Congress to intervene and negotiate with the government of Canada to remove the declaration and fee requirements in a manner that allows Alaskans to engage in routine recreational, transport, and travel opportunities in Canada.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Jean Chretien, Prime Minister of Canada; the Honorable Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada; the members of Parliament from British Columbia and the Yukon; the Honorable Pat Duncan, Premier of the Yukon; the Honorable Ujjal Dosanjh, Premier of British Columbia; the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Richard B. Cheney, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Colin Powell, United States Secretary of State; 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.