

# STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2001

**Source**

CSSJR 17(STA)

**Legislative  
Resolve No.**

21



Relating to requesting that President Bush renounce and reverse Clinton Administration anti-gun-ownership policies and reorient the United States Department of Justice towards policies that accurately reflect the intent of the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution to grant individual Americans the right to keep and bear arms.

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

**WHEREAS** the founding fathers considered popular ownership of firearms by private citizens to be a natural right and one of the surest safeguards against tyranny and governmental excesses; and

**WHEREAS** the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution recognizes and protects the inalienable right of American citizens to keep and bear arms; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1994, art. I, sec. 19, Constitution of the State of Alaska, was amended by an overwhelming majority to specifically protect an Alaskan's individual right to keep and bear arms; and

**WHEREAS** the Clinton Administration's stance on gun ownership moved dangerously in the direction of abridging or eliminating individual Second Amendment

freedoms; and

**WHEREAS**, under the Clinton Administration, the United States Department of Justice interpreted the Second Amendment to not protect the right of individual citizens to keep and bear arms but to apply only to governmentally recognized military organizations; and

**WHEREAS** the Clinton Administration's stance on gun ownership intentionally ignored the original intent of the Constitution's framers and sought to dramatically limit the Constitutionally affirmed Second Amendment freedoms of individual law-abiding Americans;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges President Bush to renounce the Clinton Administration's anti-gun ownership policies; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests President Bush to use his executive powers and influence to reorient the United States Department of Justice towards a policy that fully recognizes the right of individual Americans to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to 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 Trent Lott, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas Daschle, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Richard Gephardt, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable John Ashcroft, Attorney General of the United States; 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.