

**STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE**

**2002**

**Source**

IICS CSSJR 44(L&C)

**Legislative  
Resolve No.**

65



Relating to preparation of a joint state-federal research and development plan.

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

**WHEREAS** research and development activities in the public, private, and academic sectors of Alaska are a driver in the economy worth several hundred million dollars each year, and employ thousands of Alaskans; and

**WHEREAS** successful research and development activities serve to further impel Alaska's economy, health, and environment through the application of knowledge toward efficient resource extraction, resource protection, provision of human health, and the export of intellectual property; and

**WHEREAS** the State of Alaska supports robust research and development through funding of science and engineering in its state agencies, the Alaska Science and Technology Foundation, the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation, the University of Alaska, the WWAMI medical program, and scholarship support for college and graduate students; and

**WHEREAS** the federal government is a major provider of support for facilities and activities in Arctic research, marine research, health and environmental research in Alaska,

and, through the Department of Defense, has installed and maintains a Cold Regions Testing Center at Fort Greely, a supercomputer at the University of Alaska, and the research vessel Alpha Helix at Seward, in addition to other facilities; and

**WHEREAS** state officials and appointees of the Governor, together with federal officials and appointees of the President, direct the expenditure of income from hundreds of millions of dollars of endowment funds in the North Pacific Research Board, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, and the Prince William Sound Oil Spill Recovery Institute; and

**WHEREAS** much of this joint spending occurs with neither legislative oversight nor direction from the Alaska State Legislature on basic priorities, missions, or measures of effectiveness; and

**WHEREAS** common efforts to diversify Alaska's economy and safely extract its resources are likely to place a greater reliance on government supported research and development in years to come;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Alaska Science and Technology Foundation and the University of Alaska, on behalf of state agencies, to work with the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee, and the North Pacific Research Board, on behalf of federal agencies, to develop a joint research and development plan to help expand and diversify Alaska's economy, strengthen and maintain the health of state research institutions, and protect the health of Alaskans and the environment of Alaska; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate, respectively, shall appoint two members of each body to participate with this effort and to ensure that support is provided from legislative staff and that recommendations for legislative guidance and oversight are appropriately considered; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the parties drafting the joint research and development plan identify ways to ensure that the federal and state governments work together to identify and assess areas of high economic potential from resource development and tourism on federal and state lands, waters, and airspace of Alaska; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the joint research and development plan be presented

to the Alaska State Legislature during the First Regular Session of the Twenty-Third Alaska State Legislature as well as to the Congress and the President through the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, which is so empowered by federal law; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that state agencies and state-appointed members of joint state-federal boards are asked to assist in every way possible in this effort.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to Dr. John H. Marburger, III, Science Advisor to the President of the United States; George B. Newton, Chair, U.S. Arctic Research Commission; Dr. Rita R. Colwell, Director, National Science Foundation; the Honorable Mark R. Hamilton, President, University of Alaska; Ronald A. Duncan, Chair, Alaska Science and Technology Foundation; Deborah R. Marshall, Director, Alaska InvestNet; Helvi Sandvik, Chair, Alaska State Chamber of Commerce; Dave Benton, Chair, North Pacific Research Board; 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.