

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS LEMAN, Kelly, Wilken, Cowdery, Taylor, Pearce

REPRESENTATIVES Murkowski , Masek, Foster, Green

Introduced: 1/12/01

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the deployment of F-22 Raptor aircraft at Elmendorf Air Force Base.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the United States Air Force is developing the F-22 Raptor to replace
4 many of the United States Air Force's aging F-15 aircraft as the United States' front-line air
5 superiority fighter; and

6 **WHEREAS** the F-22 Raptor combines the capability for low-range observation,
7 supercruise capability, increased range, and enhanced offensive and defensive avionics to give
8 its pilots first-look, first-shot, and first-kill capability against the aircraft of a potential enemy;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS** the F-22 Raptor is being developed to counter lethal threats posed by
11 advanced surface-to-air missile systems and next-generation fighters equipped with launch-
12 and-leave missiles; and

13 **WHEREAS** the F-22 Raptor is widely regarded as the most advanced fighter in the
14 world, and has reduced support requirements and maintenance costs; and

15 **WHEREAS** the United States Air Force plans to begin deploying the F-22 Raptor in
16 2005 and to procure 339 F-22 Raptor aircraft by the end of 2013; and

1 **WHEREAS** military aircraft in Alaska deploy anywhere on the globe on short notice
2 to deliver whatever ordnance or capability is required; and

3 **WHEREAS** the United States Air Force is in the process of completing the
4 environmental analysis necessary to deploy the F-22 Raptor in an area, and this analysis will
5 cover the use of land in the area, the air space available above the area, the ability to train in
6 the area, the safety of deploying in the area, the socioeconomic effects of deployment on the
7 area, the biological and cultural resources of the area, the effects of noise on the area, the
8 effects of deployment on the quality of air and water in the area, and the cumulative effects of
9 deployment on the area; and

10 **WHEREAS** impact ranges and areas for military land training maneuvers are located,
11 for the most part, directly underneath Alaska air space and provide excellent opportunities for
12 joint military training; and

13 **WHEREAS** Elmendorf Air Force Base has an excellent record of environmental
14 compliance and cooperation with its surrounding communities; and

15 **WHEREAS** the strategic location, joint training opportunities, and experimentation
16 opportunities, together with unmatched community support, in Alaska have been noted by
17 senior military leaders in Alaska;

18 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the United States
19 Air Force to select Elmendorf Air Force Base for deployment of the F-22 Raptor to
20 complement existing defense capabilities.

21 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable F. Whitten Peters, Secretary
22 of the Air Force; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,
23 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
24 delegation in Congress.