

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATORS LEMAN, Wilken, Pearce, Ellis

Introduced: 1/17/01

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to opposition to National Collegiate Athletic Association legislative proposal**
2 **2000-106.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** the State of Alaska and many of its institutions participate in interstate
5 organizations and enter into many interstate agreements for the benefit of Alaska residents
6 and the residents of other states; and

7 **WHEREAS** one of these interstate organizations, the National Collegiate Athletic
8 Association (NCAA), was founded to address fair play and create a level playing field; and

9 **WHEREAS** the NCAA has allowed limited exemptions to help provide home
10 competitions for geographically disadvantaged NCAA institutions in Alaska, Puerto Rico, and
11 Hawaii; and

12 **WHEREAS** the two NCAA basketball tournaments with Division I schools held in
13 Alaska provide unique educational, cultural, and competitive experiences for men and women
14 athletes and the viewing public; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Great Alaska Shootout in Anchorage and the Top of the World
16 Classic in Fairbanks are held during and around the Thanksgiving holidays to minimize

1 missed classroom time for participating student athletes; and

2 **WHEREAS** thousands of athletes have participated in these tournaments, providing
3 Alaskans with high-caliber entertainment and education opportunities; and

4 **WHEREAS** these tournaments have become a substantial source of revenue for the
5 University of Alaska athletic programs, and their success is a significant factor in the
6 University's ability to maintain viable Division II athletic programs for men and women; and

7 **WHEREAS** travel costs for Alaska teams, as well as travel subsidies often required
8 for visiting teams, increase the cost of maintaining viable athletic programs in Alaska;

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature strongly opposes legislative
10 proposal 2000-106 or any proposal to eliminate the longstanding limited exemption that
11 enables preseason tournaments such as the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World
12 Classic to succeed.

13 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to all Division I Board of Directors; all
14 members of the Division I Management Council; to Mr. David Berst, Chief of Staff for
15 Division I, NCAA; and to the Honorable Mark Hamilton, President of the University of
16 Alaska.