

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 14(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/10/03

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES CROFT, Crawford, Kapsner, Gara, Guttenberg, Berkowitz, Joule, Gruenberg, Kerttula, Lynn, Dahlstrom, Wilson, Samuels, Cissna, Meyer, Anderson

SENATORS Ellis, Dyson, Gary Stevens, Seekins, Wagoner, Lincoln, French, Taylor, Guess, Cowdery, Bunde, Olson, Davis

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging that the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games be held in Anchorage,**
2 **Alaska.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** wheelchair sports play an important role in the lives of disabled people;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS** the National Veterans Wheelchair Games is a multi-event sports and
7 rehabilitation program for military service veterans who use wheelchairs for sports
8 competitions due to spinal cord injuries, amputations, or certain neurological problems; and

9 **WHEREAS** the National Veterans Wheelchair Games provide opportunities for
10 newly disabled veterans to gain sports skills and associate with other wheelchair athletes; and

11 **WHEREAS** the National Veterans Wheelchair Games is the largest annual
12 wheelchair sporting event in the world; and

13 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Veterans Affairs sponsored the National
14 Veterans Wheelchair Games from 1981 through 1984; and

15 **WHEREAS**, since 1985, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Paralyzed
16 Veterans of America have co-sponsored the National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and

1 **WHEREAS** the 2002 National Veterans Wheelchair Games drew more than 500
2 competing veterans; and

3 **WHEREAS** the sponsors are tentatively planning to hold the 2006 National Veterans
4 Wheelchair Games in Anchorage, Alaska; and

5 **WHEREAS** 550 to 600 disabled veterans are expected to participate in the week-long
6 events that are part of the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and

7 **WHEREAS** the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games are expected to bring
8 approximately 1,300 to 1,500 visitors, participants, and families to the Municipality of
9 Anchorage; and

10 **WHEREAS** the Municipality of Anchorage is a warm, hospitable, wheelchair
11 accessible city with plenty of space for accommodating visitors, families, and participants in
12 the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games; and

13 **WHEREAS** the Municipality of Anchorage is within driving distance of many parts
14 of the state, which offers all visitors, families, and participants tremendous recreational
15 viewing, wildlife, sporting, cultural, and other visitor opportunities;

16 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges Anthony J. Principi,
17 Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and Joseph L. Fox, Sr., President of the Paralyzed Veterans of
18 America to hold the 2006 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Anchorage, Alaska.

19 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Donald Rumsfeld, United
20 States Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Anthony Principi, United States Secretary of
21 Veterans Affairs; the Honorable Craig Campbell, Adjutant General, Department of Military
22 and Veterans' Affairs; Joseph L. Fox, Sr., President, Paralyzed Veterans of America; The
23 Honorable George Wuerch, Mayor of the Municipality of Anchorage; the Honorable Mark
24 Begich, Mayor-elect of the Municipality of Anchorage; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and
25 the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
26 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.