

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 12

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES DAHLSTROM, Gatto, Lynn, Ramras, Olson, Johnson, Harris, Fairclough, Chenault

SENATORS Dyson, Therriault, Huggins, Stevens, Stedman

Introduced: 2/2/09

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System is the cornerstone of the
4 nation's layered missile defense architecture against ballistic missile threats; and

5 **WHEREAS** the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System is the nation's only
6 deployed operational system for defending against long-range ballistic missile threats, and its
7 first interceptors were activated at Fort Greely, Alaska, in 2004; and

8 **WHEREAS** significant program development accomplishments during 2008 included
9 a successful and operationally realistic flight test intercepting a target missile launched from
10 Kodiak, the deployment of additional long-range interceptor missiles at Fort Greely, and
11 superior weapon system readiness rates in support of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion; and

12 **WHEREAS** the Cobra Dane radar, located at Eareckson Air Station on Shemya
13 Island, Alaska, is a key component in the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System and
14 keeps America on alert by tracking ballistic missile threats; and

15 **WHEREAS** the 49th Missile Defense Battalion, which consists of 200 members of
16 the Alaska National Guard, provides operational control over and security for ground-based

1 interceptors located in Alaska and provides security for over 300,000,000 American citizens;
2 and

3 **WHEREAS** the Missile Defense Agency of the United States Department of Defense
4 has characterized the overall performance of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System
5 industry team as exceptional; and

6 **WHEREAS**, in a time of growing national economic uncertainty, the Ground-based
7 Midcourse Defense System provides over 700 jobs in the state and has an economic effect of
8 nearly \$250,000,000 in the state; and

9 **WHEREAS** now is not the time for the United States to change course from
10 supporting the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System as the cornerstone of the nation's
11 missile defense shield against ballistic missile threats; and

12 **WHEREAS** the Alaska State Legislature supports continued robust investment in the
13 development, operation, and maintenance of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the United
15 States Congress to provide the necessary funding for the ongoing development, operation, and
16 maintenance of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System; and be it

17 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the
18 United States Congress to direct the United States Department of Defense to continue the
19 development, operation, and maintenance of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System
20 and to require that any plan or initiative by the United States Department of Defense to reduce
21 funding for the core elements of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System be certified by
22 the United States Secretary of Defense as not having an appreciable negative effect on
23 national defense capability.

24 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
25 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
26 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate;
27 the Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Nancy
28 Pelosi, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable John Boehner, Minority
29 Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Robert M. Gates, United States
30 Secretary of Defense; Lieutenant General Patrick J. O'Reilly, Director of the Missile Defense
31 Agency, United States Department of Defense; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the

- 1 Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
- 2 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.