

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Introduced: 3/12/12

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **In support of providing TRICARE program health care benefits to United States**
2 **military retirees as promised.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

4 **WHEREAS** recruiting and maintaining a high-quality, all-volunteer, effective
5 military force to safeguard national security is a primary goal of the United States Department
6 of Defense; and

7 **WHEREAS** persons who volunteer for military service are at risk of mortal harm
8 throughout the time they serve; and

9 **WHEREAS** the people of the state and nation rely on the men and women who serve
10 in the military to execute faithfully that service; and

11 **WHEREAS** it is reasonable for the men and women who serve in the military to rely
12 on promises made to them by the people of the state and nation; and

13 **WHEREAS** men and women who serve in the military have been promised they will
14 receive military retiree health care benefits from the TRICARE program of the United States
15 Department of Defense Military Health System (10 U.S.C. 55) after they perform 20 or more
16 years of honorable military service; and

1 **WHEREAS** breaking that promise would be dishonorable;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives supports providing to military
3 retirees who have kept their oaths of office and who have served the people of the state and
4 nation during times of war and armed conflict the TRICARE program health care benefits
5 they were promised in exchange for that service without their being required to participate in
6 health care programs that are more expensive to them than the TRICARE program and
7 without their eligibility for TRICARE program health care benefits being made subject to
8 means testing.

9 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
10 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
11 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Leon E. Panetta, United States Secretary of
12 Defense; General Martin E. Dempsey, Chair, Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Honorable Regina M.
13 Benjamin, Surgeon General of the United States; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the
14 Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
15 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.