

Original sponsor: Rules Committee  
by request

Offered: 4/26/70  
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 103  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION  
5 Opposing the establishment of a "nerve  
6 gas" storage depot in Alaska.  
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
8 WHEREAS "nerve gas" is one of the most lethal and least understood  
9 agents developed by the United States; and  
10 WHEREAS storage of this lethal agent is with some attendant risk where-  
11 ever the site is located; and  
12 WHEREAS the federal government has announced a plan to store a large  
13 quantity of nerve gas on Kodiak Island in Alaska; and  
14 WHEREAS Kodiak Island is one of the most prone areas in the United States  
15 to have devastating earthquakes; and  
16 WHEREAS the population center of Kodiak Island, the City of Kodiak, is  
17 on the north end of the island and the only potential storage area for "nerve  
18 gas" is in some area to the south of the city; and  
19 WHEREAS the prevailing wind on Kodiak Island is southwestern thus  
20 placing the City of Kodiak downwind from any storage site; and  
21 WHEREAS such agents of chemical and biological warfare are universally  
22 deplored and have no utility for a civilized, humane nation; and  
23 WHEREAS since the storage of "nerve gas" relates to national defense, it  
24 is appropriate and prudent for the Department of Defense to conduct public  
25 hearings throughout Alaska to consider all aspects relating to this vital  
26 issue;  
27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Sixth State Legislature urges that any action  
28 presently being taken to store "nerve gas" on Kodiak Island or anywhere else  
29 in Alaska be immediately rescinded; and be it

1           FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States is respectfully  
2 requested to direct the Secretary of Defense to investigate the need for  
3 storing nerve gas and to conduct public hearings throughout the State of  
4 Alaska, providing information and taking testimony (assuring all interested  
5 persons ample time and opportunity to be heard) on the following issues,  
6 among others: (1) whether nerve gas is a legitimate weapon of war, thereby  
7 justifying its retention; (2) whether it would be wiser to simply destroy it;  
8 (3) what the danger of its storage is and what the effects of that storage  
9 may be; (4) why it was believed advisable to store it in Alaska.

10           COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.  
11 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Melvin R. Laird, Secre-  
12 tary of the Department of Defense; the Honorable John C. Stennis, Chairman  
13 of the Senate Armed Services Committee; the Honorable L. Mendell Rivers,  
14 Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee; and to the Honorable Ted  
15 Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable  
16 Howard W. Pollock, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation  
17 in Congress.