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1 IN THE HOUSE

BY ROSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 68

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to United States partici-
6 pation in the war of Southeast Asia.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 WHEREAS we, as citizens of the United States and residents of Alaska,
9 place a great value on human life and the conservation of the resources of
10 this country and of the world; and

11 WHEREAS from 1965 to date the war in Southeast Asia has resulted in
12 the loss of nearly one million lives of which 53,771 were United States
13 military, 131,995 were South Vietnamese military, 4,282 were allied military,
14 703,280 were National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese military, and
15 26,700 were South Vietnamese civilians; and

16 WHEREAS during the same time period nearly one million persons have
17 been wounded not including National Liberation Front and North Vietnamese
18 military; and

19 WHEREAS economic costs to the United States directly attributable to
20 our actions in the Vietnam war now amount to \$115 billion; and

21 WHEREAS the destruction of natural resources in Vietnam and other parts
22 of Southeast Asia are, in value, many times over our own costs (to the
23 extent of being incalculable); and

24 WHEREAS these expenditures in human and natural resources are inexcus-
25 able under any theory thus far advanced to explain our reason for being in
26 Southeast Asia; and

27 WHEREAS the people of Vietnam have gained nothing from the almost
28 continuous 20 years of war in their country except immeasurable grief for
29 their families, corruption for their government, and a single loss of hope

1 for ever recovering from this mass devastation; and

2 WHEREAS countless millions of persons in our country feel this same
3 loss of hope, not just for the peoples and governments of Vietnam and
4 Southeast Asia but even more deeply for our own country and government when
5 it can continue the destruction of a people and a land under the very
6 dubious theories advanced for this continuation; and

7 WHEREAS our use of human and economic resources in pursuit of this war
8 has lead to chronic unemployment, untold suffering and pain of the families
9 withstanding direct losses of loved ones, uncontrolled inflation of our
10 economy and mass unrecoverable commitments of our resources which will tell
11 its story of woe for generations to come; and

12 WHEREAS restoration of domestic tranquillity and sensible social and
13 economic planning demands that we admit our errors of judgment as a nation,
14 expedite complete withdrawal of military forces in Southeast Asia and begin
15 the task of regaining for our country and for the world the hope that has
16 been destroyed by this exercise in futility;

17 BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Alaska hereby humbly
18 begs the President of the United States and the United States Congress to
19 take all immediate and necessary steps in extricating our human and natural
20 resources from their destructive mission in Southeast Asia with all deliber-
21 ate speed consistent with the safety and security of United States military
22 personnel.

24 COPIES of this Resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Richard M.
25 Nixon, President of the United States; the Honorable Spiro T. Agnew, Vice
26 President of the United States and President of the Senate; the Honorable
27 Carl Albert, Speaker of the House of Representatives; and to the Honorable
28 Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel, U. S. Senators, and the Honorable
29 Nick Begich, U. S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in
Congress.