

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BRADLEY

2 SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 34

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to missing American servicemen  
6 and civilians in Vietnam.

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

8 WHEREAS 566 American military prisoners of war have now been released by  
9 their Communist captors and have returned to their thankful and grateful  
10 families and nation; and

11 WHEREAS, according to the office of the Secretary of Defense, 1,233  
12 United States servicemen are unaccounted for and listed as missing in action  
13 as a result of the war in Vietnam, a nebulous status which has been a contin-  
14 uous source of uncertainty, grief, and despair for the friends, relatives,  
15 and loved ones they have waiting in the United States; and

16 WHEREAS those members of the armed forces of the United States who have  
17 suffered, and may still be suffering, internment as prisoners of war as a  
18 result of the war in Vietnam have made great sacrifices for their country;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS there is evidence that many of those missing Americans in Vietnam  
21 may very well be alive; and

22 WHEREAS new information released by the North Vietnamese government and  
23 a member of the United States Senate has caused new hope and at the same time  
24 has increased uncertainty as to the status of men listed as missing in action  
25 and unrecovered prisoners of war; and

26 WHEREAS there are many reasons to believe that the government of North  
27 Vietnam has and is withholding information about the many missing Americans  
28 because of political considerations; and

29 WHEREAS such a policy violates any minimum standard of civilized conduct;

1 and

2 WHEREAS equally immoral has been the almost total inaction by the United  
3 States government in demanding that the government of North Vietnam account  
4 for all missing American personnel, military and civilian;

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the President of the  
6 United States and the United States Congress take whatever action necessary  
7 to obtain a full accounting from the government of North Vietnam for every  
8 American who was listed as missing in action in the Vietnam war before the  
9 completion of American troop withdrawals from the war in 1973; make this  
10 information available to the American public; and apply relentless and con-  
11 tinuous pressure on the government of North Vietnam to return all missing  
12 personnel, the dead and the alive; and that the threat of armed force be  
13 utilized if all else fails.

14 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Gerald R. Ford,  
15 President of the United States; the Honorable James Schlesinger, Secretary,  
16 Department of Defense; the Honorable John C. Stennis, Chairman, Senate Armed  
17 Services Committee; the Honorable Melvin Price, Chairman, House Armed Services  
18 Committee; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Mike Gravel,  
19 U. S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U. S. Representative, members of  
20 the Alaska delegation in Congress.

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