

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the release of Vitaly

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Shevchenko, a Ukranian journalist,

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from prison.

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

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WHEREAS the Anchorage adoption group #224 of Amnesty International USA

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was formed to work on behalf of prisoners of conscience; and

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WHEREAS Amnesty International defines a prisoner of conscience as a man,

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woman, or child detained in any country in the world for his or her beliefs,

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color, sex, ethnic origin, language, or religion if the person has not advo-

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cated or used violence; and

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WHEREAS Amnesty International seeks to promote fair and early trials of

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all political prisoners; and

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WHEREAS Anchorage adoption group #224 of Amnesty International has

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adopted as its prisoner of conscience Vitaly Shevchenko, a Ukranian journa-

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list who has been tried and found guilty of "anti-Soviet agitation and propa-

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ganda" for peacefully seeking to exercise his right to freedom of expression

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by the preparation and dissemination of writings on Ukranian concerns; and

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WHEREAS Mr. Shevchenko is currently being held in a prison camp in the

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Perm region where conditions of prison life are known to be inadequate and

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unsanitary;

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the immediate release

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of Vitaly Shevchenko and the full restoration of his human right as guaranteed

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in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations is re-

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quested.

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COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,

1 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the
2 Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the U.S. House of Representa-
3 tives; the Honorable Alexander Haig, Secretary of the Department of State;
4 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
5 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the
6 Alaska delegation in Congress.

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