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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to a nuclear free arctic.

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

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WHEREAS the main purpose of establishing nuclear free zones, as of all
8 good security policies, is to prevent nuclear war; and

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WHEREAS other states, cities, and nations have pursued resolutions
10 establishing nuclear free zones; and

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WHEREAS these zones would add to the likelihood of peace in the world;

12 and

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WHEREAS the Soviet Union has deployed nuclear missiles capable of
14 hitting Alaska and Western Canada, and the resultant escalation may further
15 endanger the lives of the state's population; and

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WHEREAS nuclear weapons are themselves nuclear targets, and to remove
17 the targets will reduce the risk of destruction to the territory in which
18 they are located in case of nuclear war; and

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WHEREAS the radioactive contamination of the arctic and subarctic
20 regions from the previous use and testing of nuclear weapons has caused the
21 permanent inhabitants of the arctic and subarctic to carry body-burdens of
22 long-lived, biologically dangerous radionuclides in amounts in excess of
23 all the world's people except for the victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki
24 during August 1945; and

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WHEREAS any further deposition of nuclear materials in the arctic and
26 subarctic food-chain will result in biologically unacceptable radiation
27 standards for arctic and subarctic people and ecosystems; and

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WHEREAS the Inuit Circumpolar Conference passed a resolution restrict-
29 ing the arctic and subarctic to uses that are peaceful and environmentally

1 safe, and prohibiting the use of, testing of, storage of, and exploration
2 for materials related to nuclear devices; and

3 WHEREAS the people of Alaska desire to continue to live in freedom in
4 a world that is at peace and safe from nuclear pollution;

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor and
6 Alaska congressional delegation are requested to promote and initiate
7 efforts to

8 (1) encourage bilateral and multi-lateral agreements and treat-
9 ies between nations establishing the arctic and subarctic as a nuclear free
10 zone;

11 (2) ban from the arctic and subarctic all items capable of
12 nuclear weapons delivery;

13 (3) prevent all parties, including the military, from disposing
14 of radioactive and nuclear wastes and materials in the arctic and sub-
15 arctic; and

16 (4) prevent nuclear testing or nuclear devices in the arctic and
17 subarctic, or elsewhere in the atmosphere, because these activities result
18 in increased levels of radiation in the arctic and subarctic.

19 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ted Stevens
20 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don
21 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.