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1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to a nuclear-free subarctic and

6

arctic.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 WHEREAS the Inuit Circumpolar Conference passed a resolution

1 restricting the arctic region to uses that are peaceful and environmentally
2 safe, and prohibiting the use of, testing of, storage of, and exploration
3 for materials related to nuclear devices; and

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

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

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

12 (2) obtain agreements and treaties to ban from the subarctic and
13 arctic regions all items capable of nuclear weapons delivery;

14 (3) prevent all parties, including the military, from disposing
15 of radioactive and nuclear wastes and materials in the subarctic and arctic
16 regions; and

17 (4) obtain agreements and treaties to prevent nuclear testing or
18 nuclear devices in the subarctic and arctic regions or elsewhere in the
19 atmosphere, because these activities result in increased levels of radia-
20 tion in the subarctic and arctic regions; and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature does not seek to
22 limit the use of nuclear technology for medical treatment or other safe and
23 benign purposes.

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