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Referred: State Affairs

5-1537A

1 IN THE SENATE BY HENSLEY, JOSEPHSON, STURGULEWSKI,  
2 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34 BINKLEY, DUNCAN, ZHAROFF  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION  
5 Relating to the establishment of a  
6 commission on Alaskan-Soviet relations.  
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
8 WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union, recognizing the de-  
9 sires of the citizens of their countries, signed an agreement in 1986  
10 encouraging people-to-people exchanges between the two countries; and  
11 WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union have signed a medical  
12 research agreement giving the University of Alaska the responsibility and  
13 authority to teach, develop, research, and coordinate circumpolar interests  
14 between the United States and the Siberian branch of the Academy of Medical  
15 Sciences in the Soviet Union; and  
16 WHEREAS the United States and Soviet Union agreed in December 1987 to  
17 establish bilateral groups to work on Arctic issues; and  
18 WHEREAS Alaskans and the Soviet Union are each seeking closer ties  
19 with the other as evidenced by the travel of Alaska's Performers for Peace  
20 to the Soviet Union, by the efforts of citizens of Alaska and of the Soviet  
21 Union to bring Siberians to the St. Lawrence Island Whaling Festival and  
22 the Eskimo-Indian Olympics, and by the agreement of the Soviet Union to  
23 consider proposals for airline traffic between Alaska and Siberia; and  
24 WHEREAS it would be consistent with and supportive of the efforts of  
25 the United States and the Soviet Union to improve understanding between the  
26 two countries to stimulate travel, trade, and cultural and scientific  
27 exchange between Alaska and Siberia; and  
28 WHEREAS achievement of these goals will be dependent in part upon a  
29 continuing effort by Alaskans to identify fully these specific objectives

1 so that they may be pursued through appropriate channels;

2 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests  
3 the Governor to appoint a nine person commission on Alaska-Soviet relations  
4 to explore and identify areas of mutually beneficial interactions and to  
5 prepare findings and recommendations for the Governor and the legislature;  
6 and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to make appointments  
8 to the commission from government, civic, academic, cultural, and business  
9 leaders of the state; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to instruct the com-  
11 mission to examine the cultural and historical relationship of Alaska to  
12 the Soviet Union and to investigate areas of mutually beneficial  
13 relationships between the people of the state and our Siberian neighbors;  
14 and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to direct the commis-  
16 sion to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and legis-  
17 lature by February 1, 1989.