

Offered: 2/24/88
Referred: Finance

5-1537B

Original sponsors: Hensley, Josephson,
Sturgulewski, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34 (State Affairs)
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 July 1, 1989.