

Offered: 3/29/88
Referred: Rules

5-0753N

Original sponsors: Eliason, Kelly,
Josephson, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE RULES COMMITTEE
2 HOUSE CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21 (Rules)
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 Requesting the President of the United
6 States to propose an international
7 freeze on nuclear weapons, verification
8 safeguards for the freeze, the use of
9 nuclear weapons funds for peaceful
10 nonnuclear uses, and nuclear disarmament
11 by all nations; and requesting the state
12 Congressional delegation to urge the
13 president to make the proposals.
14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
15 WHEREAS the unleashing of nuclear weapons in warfare would cause
16 untold deaths, suffering, and destruction; and
17 WHEREAS nuclear weapons are themselves nuclear targets, and removal of
18 nuclear weapons from an area would reduce the risk of destruction to the
19 area; and
20 WHEREAS the continued development, testing, and production of nuclear
21 weaponry and related delivery systems increase distrust and apprehension
22 among nations, the likelihood of nuclear accidents, and the potential
23 magnitude of an international conflict; and
24 WHEREAS the burgeoning defense budget required for production and
25 deployment of nuclear weapons has contributed to the increase of the United
26 States budget deficit; and
27 WHEREAS since 1981 the defensive preparations for nuclear war have
28 cost the taxpayers of the United States \$427,000,000,000; and
29 WHEREAS governmental funds spent for nuclear weaponry and related

1 delivery systems may be used more wisely for peaceful pursuits; and

2 WHEREAS a ban on the testing of nuclear weapons, deployment of most
3 nuclear weapons delivery systems, and production of fissionable materials
4 can be verified with a high degree of confidence by a worldwide network of
5 seismic monitors, satellites, and other techniques; and

6 WHEREAS the intermediate nuclear forces treaty signed by the United
7 States and the Soviet Union on December 7, 1987, set important verification
8 and nuclear arms reduction precedents for future treaties, including the
9 on-site inspections of both nation's nuclear weapons facilities; and

10 WHEREAS the successful ongoing efforts of the Reagan Administration
11 towards nuclear arms reductions are consistent with the intent of this
12 resolution; and

13 WHEREAS General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev stated in a speech de-
14 livered on October 1, 1987, in the Soviet city of Murmansk, that the Soviet
15 Union is prepared to negotiate a nuclear weapons free zone for portions of
16 the Arctic; and

17 WHEREAS 58.4 percent of Alaska's voters in the August 1986 election
18 expressed their support for ballot measure no. 1, which established as
19 state policy the promotion of a mutual and verifiable nuclear weapons
20 freeze, followed by reductions in nuclear warheads, missiles, and other
21 delivery systems;

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the President of
23 the United States is encouraged to continue the current efforts at arms
24 reductions and is respectfully requested to propose to the Soviet Union and
25 other nations

26 (1) a mutual and verifiable freeze on the testing, production,
27 and deployment of nuclear weapons and of missiles, watercraft, and aircraft
28 designed primarily to delivery nuclear weapons;

29 (2) verification safeguards for the freeze that are satisfactory

1 to all parties;

2 (3) continued reduction in nuclear arms leading to eventual
3 nuclear disarmament by all nations, beginning with a verifiable and en-
4 forceable treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States that pro-
5 vides for

6 (A) a nuclear-weapon-free Arctic and subarctic encompassing
7 Alaska and Siberia; and

8 (B) eventual expansion into a multilateral treaty involving
9 all nations with territory and claims in the Arctic and subarctic,
10 which would prevent the testing and placement of nuclear weapons and
11 related devices in Arctic and subarctic regions; and

12 (4) that a summit conference be held in Alaska so that world
13 attention and concern can be focused on the environmental and security
14 concerns of Arctic and subarctic areas; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that, if the requested freeze is mutually agreed upon
16 and the Soviet Union conclusively proves that it has frozen all nuclear
17 testing, production, and deployment, the President of the United States is
18 respectfully requested to propose that funds that would have been used for
19 nuclear military purposes be used for peaceful nonnuclear uses; and be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska delegation in Congress is respect-
21 fully requested to urge President Reagan to make the proposals requested in
22 this resolution.

23 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Mikhail
24 Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R.; the
25 Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable
26 George Shultz, U.S. Secretary of State; the Honorable George Bush,
27 Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the
28 Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the
29 Honorable Robert Byrd, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable

1 Thomas Foley, Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; the
2 Honorable Robert Dole, the Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate; the Honor-
3 able Robert H. Michel, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representa-
4 tives; the Honorable Max Kampelman, Head of Delegation and Defense and
5 Space Negotiator; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
6 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
7 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.