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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

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Relating to the promotion of Alaskan and

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Soviet exchanges.

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

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WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union agreed in December 1987

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to establish a bilateral group to work on Arctic issues; and

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WHEREAS the United States and the Soviet Union also agreed to work

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toward the promotion of air transportation between the two countries; and

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WHEREAS Alaska lies only a few miles from the Siberian coast of the

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Soviet Union; and

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WHEREAS efforts to stimulate travel, trade, cultural, and scientific

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exchanges between Alaska and Siberia are consistent with and supportive of

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efforts by the United States and the Soviet Union to improve understandings

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between the two nations; and

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WHEREAS President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev are scheduled

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to meet in mid-1988 to discuss a wide range of issues;

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BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

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the President of the United States to give continued support to an opening

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of the border between Alaska and Siberia to air travel, trade, cultural,

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and scientific exchanges and these subjects be a part of the agenda for the

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1988 meeting with General Secretary Gorbachev.

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COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald R.

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Reagan, President of the United States; to the Honorable George Shultz,

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Secretary of State; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable

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Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Repre-

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sentative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.