

Introduced: 1/22/88
Referred: State Affairs and Finance

go00568s

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 55

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Relating to establishing a United States

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Navy homeport in Alaska.

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

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WHEREAS naval activities in the North Pacific and Arctic Ocean have

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increased dramatically in recent years to the extent that more foreign

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vessels now operate in these waters than the United States registers or

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deploys worldwide; and

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WHEREAS Alaska, the United States and Canada are vulnerable to econom-

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ic and military pressures from the potential foreign capability to operate

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in northern oceans with nuclear and conventional polar class icebreakers

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and other ice-strengthened ships; and

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WHEREAS Alaska's coastline of approximately 6,640 miles is longer than

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that of the rest of the continental United States; and

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WHEREAS Alaska is opening to international trade and exchange that

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supports greater naval presence; and

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WHEREAS Alaska occupies a pivotal position in relation to the Pacific

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and Arctic Rims; and

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WHEREAS Alaska contains vast quantities of natural resources that are

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of strategic importance to the United States; and

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WHEREAS, in addition to its strategic geographical location, Alaska

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can offer the United States Navy state land and resources and a willingness

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to work cooperatively to develop infrastructure necessary for the estab-

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lishment of a Navy homeport in Alaska; and

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WHEREAS establishing a Navy homeport at one or more Alaskan commu-

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nities could provide greater sustainability for naval operations in the

1 North Pacific and Arctic Oceans;

2 BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature
3 strongly urge the United States Navy to consider establishing a homeport at
4 a community on the coast of Alaska.

5 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Frank
6 Carlucci, Secretary of Defense; to the Honorable James H. Webb, Jr., Secre-
7 tary of the Navy; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank
8 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
9 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.