

Offered: 3/9/88  
Referred: Rules

go0568sX

Original sponsor: Rules/Governor

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
2 HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 55 (Finance)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION  
5 Relating to establishing a United States  
6 Navy homeport in Alaska.  
7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:  
8 WHEREAS naval activities in the North Pacific and Arctic Ocean have  
9 increased dramatically in recent years to the extent that more foreign  
10 vessels now operate in these waters than the United States registers or  
11 deploys worldwide; and  
12 WHEREAS Alaska, the United States and Canada are vulnerable to econom-  
13 ic and military pressures from the potential foreign capability to operate  
14 in northern oceans with nuclear and conventional polar class icebreakers  
15 and other ice-strengthened ships; and  
16 WHEREAS Alaska's coastline of approximately 6,640 miles is longer than  
17 that of the rest of the continental United States; and  
18 WHEREAS Alaska is opening to international trade and exchange that  
19 supports greater naval presence; and  
20 WHEREAS Alaska occupies a pivotal and strategic position in relation  
21 to the Pacific and Arctic Rims; and  
22 WHEREAS Alaska contains vast quantities of natural resources that are  
23 of strategic importance to the United States; and  
24 WHEREAS establishing a Navy homeport at one or more Alaskan commu-  
25 nities could provide greater sustainability for naval operations in the  
26 North Pacific and Arctic Oceans;  
27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature  
28 strongly urge the United States Navy to consider establishing a homeport at  
29 one or more Alaskan communities; and be it

1       FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska is willing to seriously  
2 consider investment of as much as \$100,000,000, through a cooperative  
3 arrangement with the United States Navy, to develop infrastructure or other  
4 capital improvements necessary for the establishment of a major, long-term  
5 Navy homeport in Alaska; and be it

6       FURTHER RESOLVED that the willingness of the State of Alaska to pro-  
7 vide infrastructure or other capital improvements is contingent upon the  
8 completion of a cost-benefit analysis, including consideration of relevant  
9 economic, social, and environmental factors that demonstrates that the  
10 state would derive net benefits from an investment of public funds or other  
11 resources; and be it

12       FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska strongly urges the United  
13 States Navy to work with any homeport community to develop an appropriate  
14 emergency management plan that addresses public safety issues arising from  
15 potential accidents with hazardous materials, nuclear and non-nuclear  
16 weapons, and nuclear reactors; and be it

17       FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Alaska's support for the  
18 development of homeport facilities in Alaska is contingent upon the  
19 agreement of each affected homeport community, as expressed by an advisory  
20 vote of the community.

21       COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Frank  
22 Carlucci, Secretary of Defense; to the Honorable William Bell, III, Secre-  
23 tary of the Navy; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
24 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
25 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.