

BY COTTEN, PHILLIPS, ZAWACKI,
FOSTER, BARNES, HANLEY AND
COLLINS

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Supporting approval for military train-

6

ing exercises to be held in the Eklutna

7

Glacier area.

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

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WHEREAS the Air Force and Army commands located at Elmendorf Air Force
10 Base and Fort Richardson have been good neighbors who have historically
11 cooperated to promote the best interests of the Anchorage community and the
12 State of Alaska; and

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WHEREAS military training exercises are a vital part of any service
14 organization and glacier training is an important part of the training
15 mission of forces in Alaska; and

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WHEREAS in the past the Army has held training exercises in areas that
17 are now part of Chugach State Park and, in particular, on Eklutna Glacier;
18 had a military camp set up in the area during World War II; and built the
19 original road that runs around the lake in that area; and

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WHEREAS the military has shown a willingness to cooperate with state
21 and local government requests for the use of military property for civilian
22 purposes; and

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WHEREAS in November 1986 the United States Army first inquired about
24 the possibility of resuming use of areas within Chugach State Park as a
25 training area; and

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WHEREAS in December 1987 the United States Army formally applied to
27 the state for permission to conduct limited training exercises on Eklutna
28 Glacier in Chugach State Park; and

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WHEREAS the Army's permit application includes a request for

1 permission to improve the Lakeside Trail and East Fork Bridge; and

2 WHEREAS permission has not been granted for the training activity; and

3 WHEREAS local community councils in the Chugiak-Eagle River area and
4 the Chugiak-Eagle River Chamber of Commerce have expressed support for the
5 Army's request to use the area for training purposes;

6 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests
7 the Governor to direct the commissioner of natural resources to grant
8 permission to the United States Army to use the Eklutna Glacier area as a
9 training area; and be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature discourages state
11 limitations on the number of personnel or type of training uses that would
12 restrict the practicability of the training exercises.

13 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to Lennie Boston-Gorsuch,
14 Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources; Major General Harold T.
15 Fields, Jr., U.S. Army Alaska, Sixth Infantry Division (Light); and to the
16 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
17 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delega-
18 tion in Congress.