

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN TRADE

1 IN THE HOUSE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 70 am

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5

Encouraging the President of the United

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States to select Alaska as the site for

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a future summit meeting between the

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United States and the Union of Soviet

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Socialist Republics.

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

11 WHEREAS Alaska is the only state in the United States with two inter-  
12 national borders, and is the most northern, western, and eastern state in  
13 the United States; and

14 WHEREAS Alaska is the only state with a Soviet border, and is geo-  
15 graphically closer to the U.S.S.R. than any other state, separated by only  
16 2.5 miles at the closest point; and

17 WHEREAS the Native people of Alaska share a common history, heritage,  
18 and culture with, and many are related to, citizens of the U.S.S.R.; and

19 WHEREAS Alaska has been in the forefront of opening up trade and cul-  
20 tural relations with the U.S.S.R., and Alaska has been the site of many  
21 business, scientific, cultural, and governmental exchanges between citizens  
22 of the United States and of the U.S.S.R.; and

23 WHEREAS Alaska was once Russian territory; and

24 WHEREAS both Alaska and the U.S.S.R. share long Arctic and Pacific  
25 borders; and

26 WHEREAS the northern regions of the globe and the Pacific basin are  
27 increasing in prominence and importance to the world economy and environ-  
28 ment as the world enters the next century; and

29 WHEREAS during the 1987 summit between former President Reagan and

1 General Secretary Gorbachev, the two leaders exchanged views on how to  
2 encourage more contact and cooperation between their countries on issues  
3 relating to the Arctic, and they expressed support for the development of  
4 bilateral and regional cooperation among the Arctic countries, including  
5 coordination of scientific research and environmental protection; and

6 WHEREAS Alaska would be an excellent site for a summit between the  
7 United States and the U.S.S.R., and Alaskans would like to have the oppor-  
8 tunity to host a summit between President Bush and General Secretary  
9 Gorbachev;

10 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Presi-  
11 dent of the United States to consider selecting Alaska as the site of a  
12 future summit meeting between the United States and the Union of Soviet  
13 Socialist Republics.

14 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,  
15 President of the United States; the Honorable Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General  
16 Secretary of the U.S.S.R; the Honorable James A. Baker, III, U.S. Secretary  
17 of State; the Honorable Eduard A. Shevardnadze, Minister for Foreign  
18 Affairs of the U.S.S.R; the Honorable Claiborne Pell, Chair of the Senate  
19 Committee on Foreign Relations; the Honorable Dante B. Fascell, Chair of  
20 the House Committee on Foreign Affairs; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens  
21 and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don  
22 Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.