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1 IN THE SENATE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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Relating to the promotion of interna-

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tional tourism and the international

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movement of cargo through the Alaska

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International Airport System.

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

10 WHEREAS the international movement of cargo and passengers in markets  
11 directly served by Alaska is increasing and will continue to increase over  
12 the foreseeable future; and

13 WHEREAS Alaska, with its matchless geographical position represents a  
14 unique national asset and has an inimitable opportunity to service inter-  
15 continental, international, and domestic flight service; and

16 WHEREAS Alaska's efforts to attract international visitors are greatly  
17 hampered by unnecessary limitations on landing rights, visas, and interna-  
18 tional carriers flying domestic routes; and

19 WHEREAS the United States Department of State has demonstrated a  
20 willingness to support Alaska's efforts to attract additional international  
21 visitors and air traffic through enhanced attention to Alaska in the most  
22 recent United States bilateral aviation agreement proposal; and

23 WHEREAS Alaska's airports have developed world-class facilities for  
24 the smooth, efficient, and cost-effective handling of tremendous volumes of  
25 international passenger and cargo traffic; and

26 WHEREAS technological developments, including the new Boeing 747-400,  
27 may make transpolar travel possible without refueling stopovers in Alaska,  
28 so that it is crucial that the United States make it advantageous for  
29 international air carriers to use Alaska's airports to the greatest extent

1 possible for passenger and cargo operations; and

2 WHEREAS more than 4,400,000 passengers and 7,100,000 pounds of cargo  
3 flying between Europe and Asia traveled through the Alaska International  
4 Airport System in 1988; and

5 WHEREAS an aviation bilateral committee has been established in the  
6 Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to coordinate  
7 state action in support of efforts to expand international visitation and  
8 use of the state's international airport system; and

9 WHEREAS the United States is currently involved in bilateral aviation  
10 negotiations with countries likely to pursue air travel opportunities in  
11 Alaska if allowed;

12 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly encourages  
13 the United States Department of State to continue its ongoing efforts to  
14 address the opportunities and inequities existing in the international air  
15 travel market through bilateral aviation agreement negotiations.

16 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to James A. Baker, III, Secre-  
17 tary of State; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
18 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
19 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.