

Original sponsors: Uehling, Pearce,
Szymanski, et al.

1 IN THE SENATE

BY THE SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND TOURISM

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CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15 (ITT)

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Supporting bilateral aviation agreements

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to better promote international tourism

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and the movement of cargo through the

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Alaska International Airport System.

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

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WHEREAS the international movement of cargo and passengers along air

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routes available for service by Alaska airports is increasing and will

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continue to increase over the foreseeable future; and

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WHEREAS Alaska, with its unique geopolitical position is a national

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resource with an inimitable opportunity to service intercontinental, inter-

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national, and domestic flights; and

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WHEREAS Alaska's airports have developed world-class facilities for

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the smooth, efficient, and cost-effective handling of tremendous volumes of

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international passenger and cargo traffic; and

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WHEREAS more than 1,700,000 passengers and 7,100,000,000 pounds of

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cargo flying between Europe and Asia traveled through the Alaska Inter-

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national Airport System in 1988; and

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WHEREAS Alaska's efforts to attract international visitors are greatly

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hampered by unnecessary limitations on landing rights, visas, and interna-

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tional carriers flying domestic routes; and

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WHEREAS an aviation bilateral committee has been established in the

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Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities to coordinate

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state action in support of efforts to expand international visitation and

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use of the Alaska International Airport System; and

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WHEREAS the United States is currently involved in negotiations to

1 secure new bilateral aviation agreements with countries likely to pursue
2 air travel opportunities in Alaska if allowed; and

3 WHEREAS the United States government is currently working to establish
4 a more positive international air travel system that is likely to benefit
5 Alaska; and

6 WHEREAS technological developments, including production of the Boeing
7 747-400, make transpolar travel possible without refueling stopovers in
8 Alaska; and

9 WHEREAS these technological developments may have negative effects on
10 Alaska's ability to directly serve international markets;

11 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly encourages
12 the United States Department of State and Department of Transportation to
13 continue to support Alaska's efforts to address the opportunities existing
14 in the international air travel market through the ongoing bilateral
15 aviation agreement negotiations; and be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges the
17 Governor to continue to ensure that all departments of state government
18 work cooperatively to advance Alaska's interests in international aviation
19 bilateral agreements.

20 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to James A. Baker, III, Secre-
21 tary of State; Samuel K. Skinner, Secretary of Transportation; and to the
22 Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and
23 the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delega-
24 tion in Congress.