

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY REPRESENTATIVES FOSTER, C.Davis**

**Introduced: 2/19/91**

**Referred: House Special Committee in International Trade and Tourism, State Affairs**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Encouraging Gambell, Alaska, and Nuvoye Chaplino, U.S.S.R., to be sister cities.**

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

**3 WHEREAS the residents of the City of Gambell on St. Lawrence Island in Alaska and the City  
4 of Nuvoye Chaplino in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics are closely related culturally, ethnically,  
5 and socially; and**

**6 WHEREAS the residents of both cities speak the same Native language, which is Siberian Yupik,  
7 and live a subsistence lifestyle based on whaling, fishing, berry-picking, and walrus hunting; and**

**8 WHEREAS both cities place great emphasis on traditional Native values, including honoring and  
9 learning from their elders; and**

**10 WHEREAS, until the Cold War intervened, the residents of the two cities intermarried and traded  
11 with each other; and**

**12 WHEREAS, now that the Cold War has thawed, becoming sister cities would help the two cities  
13 reestablish their communication and trade;**

**14 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the City of Gambell on St.  
15 Lawrence Island in Alaska and the City of Nuvoye Chaplino in the U.S.S.R. to become sister cities in  
16 order to help them reestablish the communication and trade between the two cities that were halted by  
17 the Cold War.**

**1** **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the City of Nuvoys Chaplino, U.S.S.R.; and to the  
**2** **Honorable Merlin Koonooka, Mayor of the City of Gambell, Alaska.**