

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 66
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES B.DAVIS, Brown, Bruckman, Lincoln, Ulmer, Koponen

Introduced: 2/3/92

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, Health, Education & Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging a reduction in federal military spending and an increase in federal nonmilitary
2 domestic spending.

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

4 WHEREAS Alaska, like the other 49 states, faces pressing social and economic needs ranging
5 from health care and day care to transportation and public safety; and

6 WHEREAS state and local government responsibility for providing human services and paying
7 for the renewal of infrastructure has increased over the past decade while federal aid to states and
8 communities has dropped from 29.4 percent to 16 percent of their budgets; and

9 WHEREAS the number of Americans living below the poverty line has increased to 33,000,000
10 according to 1990 census figures and many families even above the poverty line are facing very difficult
11 economic circumstances that affect the health and education of their children and the well-being and
12 productivity of their adult members; and

13 WHEREAS the fiscal constraints faced across the country retard efforts to preserve our families,
14 develop jobs, clean up our environment, and repair and expand our infrastructure; and

15 WHEREAS the end of the Cold War should mean that the United States can maintain a strong
16 defense with less military spending; and

1 **WHEREAS** President Bush proposed a 10-year reduction of 22 percent in the military budget
2 even before the breakup of the USSR; and

3 **WHEREAS** the potential domestic effect of even a small reduction in military spending is truly
4 significant as evidenced by the fact that the \$865,000,000 cost of just one B-1 bomber exceeds the cost
5 of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) in 49 out of the 50 states in the nation; and

6 **WHEREAS** the current federal budget agreement would not allow savings in military spending
7 to be used for domestic programs; and

8 **WHEREAS** a "peace dividend" would make a real difference in whether our families can be
9 strong and healthy and whether our nation will be economically competitive, environmentally
10 responsible, and socially compassionate;

11 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Congress and the President, for
12 the sake of present families, future generations of children, and the continued greatness of our nation,
13 to

14 (1) reduce military spending to a level that is more appropriate to a post-Cold War world
15 situation;

16 (2) reach a new budget agreement that would allow savings in military spending to be
17 used to meet the nation's enormous social and economic needs; and

18 (3) develop mechanisms to provide for the timely and orderly conversion of our economy
19 from an emphasis on the military to one that is civilian oriented.

20 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
21 States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate;
22 the Honorable Robert C. Byrd, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S.
23 Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
24 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,
25 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.