

CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 66 (MLV)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Offered: 3/13/92

Referred: Health, Education & Social Services

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES B.DAVIS, Brown, Bruckman, Lincoln, Ulmer, Koponen

A RESOLUTION

**1 Urging the Congress to amend the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 to allow savings in
2 military spending to be spent for domestic needs as well as for budget deficit reduction.**

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

**4 WHEREAS a strong national defense remains a high priority, although the cost of maintaining
5 a strong national defense has been reduced significantly; and**

**6 WHEREAS the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 enacted by the Congress established three
7 separate categories for federal spending; and**

**8 WHEREAS these categories of defense, domestic, and international spending have spending
9 limits set within each category and transfer of funds between categories is prohibited; and**

**10 WHEREAS any savings in military spending can be directed only toward budget deficit
11 reduction and may not be reprogrammed for domestic spending; and**

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

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

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

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

7 **WHEREAS** President Bush proposed a 10-year reduction of 22 percent in the military budget
8 even before the changes in the USSR; and

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

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

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Congress and the President, for
16 the sake of present families, future generations of children, and the continued greatness of our nation,
17 to reach a new budget agreement that would allow savings in military spending to be used to meet the
18 nation's enormous domestic social and economic needs.

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