

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 22**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY SENATOR DUNCAN**

**Introduced: 3/13/91**  
**Referred: State Affairs and Judiciary**

**A RESOLUTION**

**1 Urging President Bush and the Alaska congressional delegation to take action to halt the**  
**2 testing of nuclear weapons.**

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

**4 WHEREAS** the Cold War is over, democratic systems are emerging throughout Eastern Europe  
**5 and the Soviet Union, and a continuation of the United States/Soviet Union nuclear arms race is no**  
**6 longer justified; and**

**7 WHEREAS,** although the United States and the Soviet Union already possess over 30,000  
**8 nuclear weapons between them, both countries continue to explode nuclear warheads underground in**  
**9 order to develop new, more dangerous nuclear weapons; and**

**10 WHEREAS** these tens of thousands of nuclear weapons are deployed in enormously complex  
**11 systems of missiles, planes, ships, computers, satellites, and people, which may eventually result in their**  
**12 accidental or deliberate use; and**

**13 WHEREAS** nuclear test explosions by the United States and the Soviet Union encourage the  
**14 spread of nuclear weapons to other countries and seriously hamper efforts to curb the proliferation of**  
**15 nuclear weapons; and**

**16 WHEREAS** nuclear weapons are not weapons at all since they cannot be safely used to fight a

1 war, but are instruments of terrorism and genocide, which this nation abhors; and

2       **WHEREAS** radioactive contamination resulting from nuclear test explosions has left several  
3 areas of the United States, the Soviet Union, the South Pacific, and China unfit for human, animal, or  
4 plant life; and

5       **WHEREAS** the Soviet Union unilaterally stopped all nuclear testing for 18 months beginning  
6 August 6, 1985, stopped again October 19, 1989, and has conducted only one test, which occurred on  
7 October 24, 1990, since then; and

8       **WHEREAS** an opportunity to ban nuclear test explosions in 118 countries occurred January 7 -  
9 18, 1991, in New York when a Test Ban Treaty Conference was held to change the 1963 Partial Test  
10 Ban Treaty into a comprehensive test ban treaty that would ban underground explosions as well as  
11 atmospheric testing; and

12       **WHEREAS** 75 nations voted to continue the Test Ban Treaty Conference, while only the United  
13 States and the United Kingdom voted against it; and

14       **WHEREAS** the 118 parties to the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty, which needs to be renewed in  
15 1995, have linked their continued adherence to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to the passage of  
16 a comprehensive test ban treaty; and

17       **WHEREAS** the previous United States Congress considered Joint State-House Resolution 287,  
18 which urged President Bush to join the Soviet Union in a mutual and verifiable suspension of nuclear  
19 test explosions and to work with urgency to change the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty into a comprehen-  
20 sive prohibition against nuclear testing;

21       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges President Bush to

22               (1) take the steps necessary for the United States to join the Soviet Union in a mutual  
23 and verifiable suspension of all nuclear test explosions; and

24               (2) cooperate with other nations of the world in implementing a comprehensive test ban  
25 treaty; and be it

26       **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature calls upon the members of the Alaska  
27 delegation in Congress to support future congressional resolutions that encourage a comprehensive  
28 prohibition against nuclear testing.

29       **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United  
30 States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate;  
31 the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; to the Honorable Ted  
32 Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Repre-

1 sentative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and to the mayor and the governing body of  
2 each municipality in the state.