

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS PEARCE, Sturgulewski, Collins

Introduced: 1/27/92
Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the use of Alaskan facilities for year-round training for national and
2 international sports teams.

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

4 WHEREAS Alaska is endowed with a climate and geography that provides excellent
5 opportunities for recreation and amateur sports training, particularly winter sports; and

6 WHEREAS Alaska has, for several decades, been a major training and competition center for
7 the U.S. biathlon team, alpine skiing, hockey, cross-country skiing, sled dog racing, and many other
8 sports in Fairbanks, Juneau, and Anchorage; and

9 WHEREAS millions of dollars in funding from the state government, national and state sports
10 governing bodies, and the private sector have created world class training and recreational facilities at
11 Eagle Glacier Nordic Training Center in Girdwood and Kincaid Park in Anchorage that are capable of
12 hosting state, national, and international team training; and

13 WHEREAS year-round use of Alaska's natural resources and facilities by national and
14 international sports teams has considerable positive social and health effects on the athletes, coaches, and
15 officials in Alaska; and

16 WHEREAS Alaska would receive substantial economic benefits from hosting team training and

1 national and international sports competitions associated with team training in the state; and

2 **WHEREAS** the legislature created the Alaska Amateur Sports Authority in 1989 to promote and
3 develop amateur sports, including training facilities; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with that charge, the authority is developing the Alaska Sports
5 Training and Education Center in conjunction with the Eagle Glacier Nordic Training Center, Kincaid
6 Park, Hatcher Pass facilities, Alaska Pacific University, and the University of Alaska;

7 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature invites the U.S. biathlon team, the U.S.
8 cross-country team, the U.S. junior development teams, and other state, national, and international sports
9 governing bodies to send individuals and teams to Alaska to make use of its year-round training and
10 educational opportunities; and be it

11 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature requests the Governor to encourage
12 the Governor's Office, Department of Commerce and Economic Development, Department of Natural
13 Resources, Department of Education, Alaska Amateur Sports Authority, state amateur sports
14 organizations, and other public and private entities to review their options for attracting national and
15 international sports teams to Alaska for training and competition development.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the U.S. Biathlon Association; the U.S. Ski
17 Association; the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States; the Amateur Hockey Association of the
18 United States; the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics; the National Collegiate Athletic
19 Association; the National Junior College Athletic Association; the U.S. Figure Skating Association; the
20 United States Curling Association; the United States International Speed Skating Association; the U.S.
21 Bobsled and Skeleton Federation; the Honorable Jerry Covey, commissioner of education; the Honorable
22 Glenn A. Olds, commissioner of commerce and economic development; the Honorable Harold C. Heinze,
23 commissioner of natural resources; the director of the division of tourism, Department of Commerce and
24 Economic Development; the Anchorage Olympic Organizing Committee; and the Alaska Amateur Sports
25 Authority.