

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41 (ITT)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND TOURISM

Offered: 3/11/92

Referred: Labor & Commerce

Sponsor(s): SENATORS PEARCE, Sturgulewski, Collins, Pourchot

A RESOLUTION

**1 Relating to the use of Alaska 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 Alaska has produced over 30 Olympic athletes, including Hilary Lindh of Juneau
10 who recently won the silver medal in the women's downhill race at the 16th Winter Olympic Games in
11 France; and**

**12 WHEREAS millions of dollars in funding from the state government, national and state sports
13 governing bodies, and the private sector have created in Alaska such world class training and recreational
14 facilities as the Eagle Glacier Nordic Training Center in Girdwood, Kincaid Park in Anchorage, Hatcher
15 Pass in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and Birch Hill Park in Fairbanks that are capable of hosting
16 state, national, and international team training; and**

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

4 **WHEREAS** Alaska would receive substantial economic benefits from hosting team training and
5 national and international sports competitions associated with team training in the state; and

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

8 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with that charge, the authority is developing the Alaska Sports
9 Training and Education Center in conjunction with the Eagle Glacier Nordic Training Center, Kincaid
10 Park, Hatcher Pass facilities, Birch Hill Park, Alaska Pacific University, and the University of Alaska;

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

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

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