

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 64
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Introduced: 4/6/94

Referred: Labor & Commerce

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the projects of the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation for
2 satellite ground stations and a rocket launch facility.

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

4 WHEREAS the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation is a public corporation
5 established by AS 14.40.821; and

6 WHEREAS the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation has identified two areas
7 of aerospace development that have special significance to the state, which are the location
8 of satellite ground stations in the Fairbanks area and the construction of a commercial rocket
9 launch facility on Kodiak Island; and

10 WHEREAS the strategic northern location of the Fairbanks area, the state's state-of-
11 the-art telecommunications systems, the renowned engineering and science faculty and
12 facilities of the University of Alaska, and the availability of skilled employees and contractors
13 have led a number of aerospace companies to express great interest in locating ground stations
14 in the Fairbanks area for the purpose of controlling, communicating with, and processing
15 information from polar-orbiting satellites; and

16 WHEREAS the growing commercial demand for low-earth orbit satellites is expected

1 to increase the need for a commercial rocket launch facility in the United States; and

2 **WHEREAS** the sites proposed by the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation on
3 Kodiak Island for a rocket launch facility have attracted governmental and aerospace industry
4 interest because of the safety and environmental features of those sites; and

5 **WHEREAS** the plans of the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation for a rocket
6 launch facility promise a low cost, unbureaucratic rocket launch facility free from the
7 restrictions imposed on facilities owned by the federal government; and

8 **WHEREAS** the location of ground stations in the Fairbanks area and the construction
9 of the rocket launch facility on Kodiak Island will provide the state with new sources of
10 skilled, long-term employment, provide additional technology infrastructure to the state, and
11 lead to a continued growth in the state's technology industry; and

12 **WHEREAS** both of these projects will provide unparalleled educational opportunities
13 for Alaska students because the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation intends to work
14 with the state's schools during these projects, and this cooperation will expose state students
15 to some notable persons, including some of the best aerospace scientists in the country and
16 Eugene Cernan, who was the last man to walk on the moon and who is on the corporation's
17 board of directors; and

18 **WHEREAS** these projects of the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation would
19 be enhanced if the aerospace industry and the United States government cooperated with and
20 provided technological and other assistance to the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation
21 during these projects;

22 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature hereby expresses its support for
23 the projects of the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation to locate satellite ground
24 stations in the Fairbanks area and to construct a rocket launch facility on Kodiak Island; and
25 be it

26 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the aerospace
27 industry and the United States government to cooperate and provide technological and other
28 assistance to the Alaska Aerospace Development Corporation for these projects.

29 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Al Gore, Jr., Vice-President
30 of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Robert C. Byrd, President
31 Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House
32 of Representatives; to the Honorable Sheila E. Widnall, Secretary of the U.S. Air Force; and

- 1 to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the
- 2 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.