

HJR

82

COMMITTEE REPORT

HOUSE

(5)

FURTHER:

2/12/82

Date: 3/19/82

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on STATE AFFAIRS has had HJR 82

Relating to the plight of the Siberian Pentecostals who are on a hunger strike in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

under consideration and (a majority of the committee) (the committee) reports it back with the following recommendations:

[] do pass [] do not pass

[] do pass with attached amendments(s)

[X] replace with CS for HJR 82 [X] same title [] new title and recommends _____

[] AND attaches a "Letter of Intent" [] New Fiscal Note

[X] reports it back without recommendation AS FOLLOWS

[] referred to the _____ Committee

MEMBERS SIGNING DO PASS

[Signature]

MEMBERS HAVING OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Signature]

Ray W. Dalpe
CHAIRMAN

A M E N D M E N T

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE:

By: State Affairs

To: CS (Final) HOUSE BILL No. HJR 82

SENATE BILL No. _____

PAGE: _____

LINE: _____

Adopt attached CS in final form.

Original sponsors: Beirne and Miller

Offered:
Referred: Finance

IN THE HOUSE

BY BEIRNE AND MILLER

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 82

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWELFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

Relating to the plight of the Siberian
Pentecostals who are on a hunger
strike in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

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

WHEREAS there are two Siberian families, the Vashchenkos and the Chmykhalovs, who have been refuged in the United States Embassy in Moscow since June 27, 1978, in an attempt to get American help in their campaign to leave the Soviet Union for America to enjoy the exercise of religious freedom as members of the Pentecostal faith; and

WHEREAS the efforts of the United States Embassy officials and the federal administration have been unsuccessful to date in securing Soviet permission for the emigration of the Vashchenkos and the Chmykhalovs; and

WHEREAS Lydia Vashchenko and her mother, Augustina Vashchenko, underwent a painful and health-threatening hunger strike late in 1981 and early in 1982, to bring attention to their plight in order to affect speedy resolution of their dilemma by the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS the courage and determination displayed by the Vashchenkos and the Chmykhalovs in their struggle to obtain freedom is an inspiration to all who value religious freedom and individual human rights; and

WHEREAS the failure of the Soviet Union to allow the emigration of these two families is a violation of the Helsinki Accords and the 1948 Declaration of Human Rights, both of which were signed by the USSR;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the people of the State of Alaska reaffirm their belief that the truths set forth in the American Declaration of Independence are still self-evident -- that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal administration and Congress are urged to make every reasonable effort to secure an expeditious resolution of the emigration requests of the Vashchenkos and Chnykalovs to reaffirm the self-evident truths upon which the United States of America was founded and continues to symbolize for all people who cherish those truths.

FURTHER RESOLVED that President Reagan is asked to communicate to American and other delegates to the May 1982 International Peace Conference in Moscow his hope that the plight of the "Siberian Seven" will be voiced and explored during the process of the conference.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable George Bush, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate; the Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States.