

HJR

56

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

RECAP OF HJR 56

Nuclear-Free Arctic and Subarctic

Received May 7, 1989

by Reps. Koponen, Brown, Davidson, MacLean,
and Finkelstein

Heard January 30, 1990

Passed Out of Committee January 30, 1990

3 Do Pass

1 No Recommendation

1 Do Not Pass

TABLE OF CONTENTS

HJR 56: Nuclear-Free Arctic and Subarctic

- Item 1:** HJR 56 by Reps. Koponen, Brown, Davidson,
MacLean, and Finkelstein
CS HJR 56 (SA)
- Item 2:** Fiscal Note by House State Affairs
- Item 3:** Ballot Measure No. 1, Initiative No. 83-03

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: May 8, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: _____

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 56

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56

NUCLEAR-FREE ARCTIC AND SUBARCTIC

Relating to the promotion of a nuclear weapons-free treaty for the arctic and subarctic.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- be replaced with CS HJR 56 (SA) the same title
 have attached amendment(s) a new title
 do pass
 do not pass
 no recommendation
 individual recommendations
 additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Date/Dept)

- fiscal impact _____
 zero fiscal note SA
 zero with analysis _____

- fiscal note(s) _____
 zero fiscal note(s) _____
 zero fn/analysis _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

[Signature]
Eileen P. Maclean
Dave Douley

SIGNING:

(Check approp. column)

	Do Not Pass	No Rec	Amend
<u>[Signature]</u>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>[Signature]</u>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>Strength of U.S depends on a strong military against Communist countries</u>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Eileen P. Maclean
Vice-Chairman's Signature

CS HR 56 (SA)

page 4, line 11 delete Honourable
insert President

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY KOPONEN, BROWN, DAVIDSON,
MACLEAN, AND FINKELSTEIN

2

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to the promotion of a nuclear

6

weapons-free treaty for the arctic and

7

subarctic.

8

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

9

WHEREAS the unprecedented thawing of the cold war following the con-
versations between former President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev
necessitates a continuing restructuring of the relationship between Alaska
and the neighboring areas of the Soviet Union; and

13

WHEREAS the main purpose of negotiating a nuclear weapons-free treaty,
as of all rational security policies, is to prevent nuclear war; and

15

WHEREAS an emphatic expression of feeling by citizens and their local
and state governments can help initiate steps by the United States, the
Soviet Union, and other nuclear powers towards world peace and away from
the brink of nuclear war; and

19

WHEREAS over the past five years more than 4,225 communities in 23
nations have adopted resolutions calling for the establishment of nuclear-
free zones; and

22

WHEREAS 42 of the 50 states in the United States have proposals for
nuclear-free zones introduced or approved at state or local levels; and

24

WHEREAS there are five treaties in existence with as many as 83 signa-
tories, including the United States and the Soviet Union, pertaining to
nuclear-free zones in the Antarctic, outer space, Latin America, the South
Pacific, and on the ocean floor; and

28

WHEREAS nuclear weapons are themselves nuclear targets, and to remove
the targets will reduce the risk of destruction to the territory in which

1 they were located in case of nuclear war; and

2 WHEREAS 58.4 percent of Alaska voters in the August 1986 election
3 expressed their strong support for Ballot Measure No. 1, which declared as
4 the policy of the state the promotion of a mutual and verifiable nuclear
5 weapons freeze to be followed by a reduction in nuclear warheads, missiles,
6 and other delivery systems in order to halt the nuclear arms race and
7 reduce the risk of nuclear war; and

8 WHEREAS the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster in the Soviet Union
9 has resulted in the spread of nuclear poison to neighboring territories,
10 including arctic regions of Scandinavia; and

11 WHEREAS the environmental devastation of these regions has seriously
12 jeopardized the health and lifestyle of the Saami people; and

13 WHEREAS the radioactive contamination of the region above the Arctic
14 Circle from the previous use and testing of nuclear weapons has caused the
15 permanent inhabitants of the arctic region to carry body-burdens of long-
16 lived, biologically dangerous radionuclides in amounts in excess of all the
17 world's people except for the atomic bomb victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki
18 during August 1945; and

19 WHEREAS any further deposition of nuclear materials in the food-chain
20 of the arctic and subarctic regions will result in biologically unaccept-
21 able radiation standards for people and ecosystems; and

22 WHEREAS the storage or transportation of high level radioactive nu-
23 clear wastes in Alaska could pose serious health, safety, and environmental
24 risks to the state's residents; and

25 WHEREAS the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the legislative bodies of
26 the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and Greenland have unanimously ap-
27 proved resolutions calling for restriction of the arctic to uses that are
28 peaceful and environmentally safe, and prohibiting the deployment and
29 testing of nuclear weapons in this area; and

1 WHEREAS a ban on nuclear weapons testing, the deployment of most
2 nuclear weapons delivery systems, and the production of fissile materials
3 can be verified with high confidence by on-site inspections, and a world-
4 wide network of seismic monitors, satellites, and other verification tech-
5 nology; and

6 WHEREAS the people of Alaska desire to continue to live in freedom in
7 a world that is at peace and safe from nuclear pollution; and

8 WHEREAS the ratification of a multi-lateral and verifiable nuclear-
9 free arctic and subarctic treaty represents a creative and meaningful first
10 step towards establishing a nuclear-weapons free world, which is the ulti-
11 mate intent of this resolution;

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor and
13 the Alaska congressional delegation are requested to promote and initiate
14 efforts to

15 (1) encourage verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements
16 and treaties between the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations
17 establishing the arctic and subarctic regions as a nuclear weapons-free
18 zone;

19 (2) obtain verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements and
20 treaties between the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations to
21 ban nuclear weapons from the arctic and subarctic regions;

22 (3) prevent all parties, including military forces, from dispos-
23 ing of radioactive and nuclear wastes and materials in the arctic and
24 subarctic regions;

25 (4) obtain verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements and
26 treaties between the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations to
27 prevent nuclear weapons testing or the placement of nuclear weapons-related
28 devices in the arctic and subarctic regions; and

29 (5) promote and encourage the location of the next US/USSR

1 summit conference to be in Alaska so that world attention and concern can
2 be drawn to the environmental and security concerns of arctic and subarctic
3 areas; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature does not seek to
5 limit the use of nuclear technology for medical treatment or other safe and
6 benign purposes; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature does not seek to
8 discourage or prohibit United States Navy nuclear-powered vessels from
9 entering Alaska waters or visiting Alaska ports.

10 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,
11 President of the United States; ~~the Honorable~~ Mikhail Gorbachev, ^{PRESIDENT} General
12 ~~Secretary~~ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; the Honorable James
13 A. Baker, III, U.S. Secretary of State; to the Honorable Richard R. Burt,
14 Head of Delegation and Negotiator; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the
15 Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
16 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

Bush has reopened Arctic inspection zone. Bush following
TRENCH OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR - AIRTEL INSPECTION
WEAPON FREE AREA INITIATIVE - "ARCTIC OPEN STAYS" INITIATIVE

intent; promote / initiate bilateral treaty
NEXT SUMMIT MEETING IN AK -

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: Nuclear-Free Arctic and
Subarctic
Sponsor: Koponen
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: _____
BRU: _____
Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: House State Affairs
Division: _____

Phone: 465-4963
Date: Jan 25, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: H. W. Redden, Chair
Agency: _____

Date: Jan 25, 1990

- Distribution (by preparer):
- Legislative Finance
 - Legislative Sponsor
 - Requestor
 - Office of Management and Budget
 - Impacted Agency(ies)

1986

BALLOT MEASURE NO. 1
Initiative No. 83-03

NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREEZE

The initiative would officially recognize that the prevention of nuclear war is the greatest challenge facing the Earth, and that the nuclear arms race dangerously increases the risk of a war that would destroy humanity. The initiative would promote mutual and verifiable nuclear weapons freeze, to be followed by nuclear weapons reduction. The initiative would direct the governor to conduct the state's affairs in conformity with the initiative's goals.

A vote "FOR" adopts the initiative.
A vote "AGAINST" rejects the initiative.

FOR
AGAINST

NEUTRAL SUMMARY—83-03
Prepared by the Legislative Affairs Agency

This initiative would declare as the policy of the state the promotion of a mutual and verifiable nuclear freeze to be followed by a reduction in nuclear warheads, missiles, and other delivery systems in order to halt the nuclear arms race and to reduce the risk of nuclear war. The initiative bases this policy on its recognition that the greatest challenge facing the earth is the prevention of nuclear war by accident or by design and that the nuclear arms race is dangerously increasing the risk of a holocaust that could be humanity's final war. The governor is directed to conduct the affairs of the state and to carry out state programs in conformity with this policy.

FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSITION

For An Act Entitled: "An Act relating to the establishment of a nuclear freeze as the policy of the State."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

Section 1. **DECLARATION OF POLICY.** It is the policy of the State of Alaska: (1) to recognize that the greatest challenge facing the Earth is to prevent the occur-

rence of nuclear war by accident or design;

(2) to recognize that the nuclear arms race is dangerously increasing the risk of a holocaust that would be humanity's final war;

(3) to promote a mutual and verifiable freeze followed by reductions in nuclear warheads, missiles, and other delivery systems in order to halt the nuclear arms race and to reduce the risk of nuclear war.

Section 2. IMPLEMENTATION. (a) The governor shall conduct the affairs of state and carry out state programs in conformity with this policy.

(b) The lieutenant governor shall deliver copies of this Act to Congress and the President of the United States.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This initiative shall be effective when enacted according to law.

**Statement IN SUPPORT of the
Nuclear Arms Freeze Proposition**

Alaskans have a wonderful opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to world peace when they vote August 26. They can do this by casting their vote in the "For" (meaning "yes") column on the Nuclear Freeze Initiative question they'll find on the ballot.

It is important, however, to realize several things the initiative does **not** do:

The Initiative does **not** encourage or obligate the U.S. to any sort of unilateral or "go-it-alone" policy regarding a freeze or reduction of nuclear warheads. It calls, instead, for a **mutual** freeze and reduction of such weapons. If other nations—particularly the Soviet Union—will not participate, then there is no obligation for the U.S. to do so.

And, the initiative does not call for any sort of "blind trust" toward the Soviets or any other nation. Instead it specifies that any agreement must be not only mutual but **verifiable** before we agree to participate. In other words we have to have arrangements in place to scientifically verify that no one is cheating, or there's no deal.

Truly, we have nothing to lose by adopting this policy.

But what will we gain?

For starters, just the freezing of production of nuclear weapons, just the limiting of arsenals to their present strength—which is already sufficient to destroy civilization as we know it today, many times over—will be a significant step forward in the

(CONTINUED ON BACK SIDE)

Item 3

HJR 56

May 2 1990

The Alaska Federal constitution charge you with protecting the general welfare of the people. Clearly nuclear weapons do not protect the general welfare of the people; these weapons endanger the welfare of the people.

Tax payers now work until May 15th to pay for the cost of the federal government. A peace dividend is available if funds are instead spent on human services or public works in infrastructure. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci has extended the freeze on military construction \$7 billion on 207 projects, see the Anchorage Times, Wednesday May 2nd edition.

Peace is a growth industry. Summit conferences held in Anchorage and perhaps in United Nations outposts in same, will provide economic diversification. Finally, democracy. The people of the state of Alaska deserve a vote by the full Senate even if individual members of the State Affairs Committee do not support the bill. Support democracy, pass HJR 56

Jed Whittaker