

SJR

10

<TARGET><BILL>SJR 10</BILL><SUBJECT>SJR
10</SUBJECT><COMM>HSTA28</COMM></TARGET>

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): SENATORS GIESSEL, McGuire, Hoffman, Micciche, Stevens, Olson, Dyson, Stedman, Bishop, Dunleavy, Gardner

REPRESENTATIVES Kreiss-Tomkins, Isaacson

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to the presence and interests of the state and the nation in the Arctic;**
2 **appreciating the United States' ongoing offer to include a representative of the state on**
3 **the Arctic Council; relating to icebreakers; and relating to United States Coast Guard**
4 **operations and facilities in the Arctic.**

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

6 **WHEREAS** this state alone qualifies the United States as an Arctic nation; and

7 **WHEREAS**, according to the United States Geological Survey, the Arctic may hold
8 up to 90,000,000,000 barrels of oil, the equivalent of 13 percent of the world's undiscovered
9 oil reserves, and 47.3 trillion cubic meters of natural gas, the equivalent of 30 percent of the
10 world's undiscovered natural gas reserves, and the development of these resources would have
11 a profound economic effect on the state and promote energy security for the nation; and

12 **WHEREAS** the amount of Arctic Ocean ice during the summer months has
13 increasingly diminished, resulting in the opening of international shipping lanes through the
14 Arctic; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Northwest Passage along North America and the Northern Sea Route

1 along Eurasia both pass through the Bering Strait and decrease shipping time and costs
2 between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans compared to traveling conventional routes through
3 the Suez Canal or Panama Canal; and

4 **WHEREAS** growing interest in economic and strategic opportunities in the Arctic has
5 led the Russian Federation to announce its interests in the region and, in August 2007, to plant
6 a Russian flag on the Arctic Ocean seabed and resume strategic bomber flights over the Arctic
7 region for the first time since the end of the Cold War; and

8 **WHEREAS** Russia has submitted a claim to the United Nations Convention on the
9 Law of the Sea to an area of 460,000 square miles in the Arctic Ocean, an area the size of
10 Germany, France, and Italy combined; and

11 **WHEREAS** the United States Coast Guard does not have a base on or adjacent to the
12 Arctic Ocean, inhibiting the nation's ability to respond to situations that could threaten United
13 States sovereignty in the Arctic and reducing the nation's emergency and disaster
14 preparedness in the area; and

15 **WHEREAS** increasing interest in the Arctic as a result of emerging geopolitical and
16 economic factors has created a national priority for the United States to map the Arctic floor,
17 which is essential to establish legitimate claims to areas beyond the 200 nautical mile
18 exclusive economic zone and best assert the nation's rights in the international community;
19 and

20 **WHEREAS**, as the use of international shipping lanes through the Arctic Ocean
21 becomes possible, the demand for icebreaker vessels is increasing; and

22 **WHEREAS** Canada currently has six icebreaker vessels, with a plan to complete a
23 seventh, the 459-foot John G. Diefenbaker, in 2017; and

24 **WHEREAS** the Russian icebreaker fleet is the largest in the world, with 36 vessels,
25 including 17 government-operated icebreakers and six nuclear-powered icebreakers with at
26 least 45,000 brake horsepower; and

27 **WHEREAS** a seventh nuclear-powered Russian icebreaker is currently under
28 construction, and three more nuclear-powered icebreakers are planned for completion by
29 2017; and

30 **WHEREAS** the most powerful icebreaker in the world, the Russian nuclear-powered
31 50 Years of Victory, commissioned in 2007, is 524 feet long, has 75,000 horsepower, and can

1 break ice up to 9.2 feet thick; and

2 **WHEREAS** the United States has five icebreakers, only three of which are United
3 States Coast Guard vessels; and

4 **WHEREAS** only one of the United States Coast Guard icebreakers, the USCGC
5 Healy, which has 30,000 horsepower and was designed primarily for research purposes, is
6 presently in service; and

7 **WHEREAS**, of the two other United States Coast Guard icebreakers, the USCGC
8 Polar Star and the USCGC Polar Sea, constructed in 1976 and 1977, the USCGC Polar Sea is
9 unlikely to return to service and the USCGC Polar Star is not anticipated to return to service
10 until late 2013 at the earliest; and

11 **WHEREAS** the Arctic Council is a high-level forum of Arctic states, is the only
12 circumpolar forum that includes all of the Arctic states, and includes participation of Arctic
13 indigenous peoples for the purpose of holding political discussions on Arctic issues shared in
14 common and fostering Arctic cooperation; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Arctic Council includes official state representatives from the
16 governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation,
17 Sweden, and the United States; and

18 **WHEREAS** the chairmanship of the Arctic Council rotates every two years, and,
19 following the chairmanship of Canada beginning in May 2013, the United States will assume
20 chairmanship of the Arctic Council in May 2015; and

21 **WHEREAS** the United States has a presence on the Arctic Council only because of
22 Alaska's location in the Arctic; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in 2011, in the spirit of cooperation between the Arctic states, and
24 cognizant of the harsh conditions that pose a challenge to search and rescue operations in the
25 Arctic and the vital importance of providing rapid assistance to persons in distress in those
26 circumstances, the Arctic Council signed the council's first legally binding agreement in
27 Nuuk, Greenland, to coordinate search and rescue operations in the Arctic Ocean; and

28 **WHEREAS** the official state delegation of Canada to the Arctic Council includes
29 representatives from the governments of the territories of Yukon and Nunavut; and

30 **WHEREAS** the official United States delegation to the Arctic Council does not
31 include any officially appointed representative from Alaska; and

1 **WHEREAS** the interests of the state are directly affected by Arctic policy;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature, recognizing the importance of
3 diplomatic opportunities and the particular effect of Arctic policy on the state's interests,
4 appreciates the United States' ongoing offer since the inception of the Arctic Council to
5 include a designated representative from this state as a member of its official delegation to the
6 Arctic Council; and be it

7 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States
8 Congress and the President of the United States to provide the United States Coast Guard with
9 sufficient funding to expand its Arctic operations, to retrofit the nation's existing icebreaker
10 fleet, to build needed vessels and facilities, including icebreakers and a United States Coast
11 Guard base for Arctic operations, to map the United States outer continental shelf for the
12 purpose of preserving and defending the nation's sovereign territorial rights, and to maintain a
13 strong presence in the region; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States to
15 continue to assert its political, strategic, environmental, and economic interests in the Arctic,
16 with particular emphasis on the well-being of the state, and to take a leadership role in guiding
17 international Arctic policy through diplomatic, military, and economic means.

18 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
19 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
20 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable John F. Kerry, United States Secretary of State;
21 General Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Honorable Janet A.
22 Napolitano, United States Secretary of Homeland Security; the Honorable Robert Menendez,
23 Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; the Honorable Michael T. McCaul,
24 Chair of the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security; the Honorable Thomas R. Carper,
25 Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; the
26 Honorable Barbara Mikulski, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations; the
27 Honorable Dave Camp, Chair of the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee; the Honorable
28 Bob Corker, ranking member, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Admiral Robert
29 J. Papp, Jr., Commandant of the United States Coast Guard; and the Honorable Lisa
30 Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
31 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and all other members of

1 the United States Senate.

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman

State Affairs Committee

Member

Judiciary Committee
Energy Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee
Military & Veterans Affairs Committee

Finance Subcommittees

Administration
Corrections
Military and Veterans Affairs



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 31 Anchorage

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To: Legal Services

Fax #: 465-2029

From: Nancy Manly 465-2794
Alaska State Capitol, Room 108
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

of Pages (including cover): 1

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Re Final CS for SJR 10

03-28-2013

SJR 10 moved from the House State Affairs Committee this morning. Please draft a final CS for SJR10 Version C.

Thanks!

LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY
STATE OF ALASKA

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FAX (907) 465-2029
Mail Stop 3101

State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

MEMORANDUM

March 23, 2013

SUBJECT: Arctic Council (HCS CSSJR 10(STA))
(Work Order No. 28-LS0542\C)

TO: Representative Bob Lynn
Attn: Nancy Manly

FROM: Emily Nauman *EN*
Legislative Counsel

The "N" version of CSSJR 10(RES) contains a defective title. The title is defective in that the reference to *urging* appointment of a representative did not accurately describe the change made by the floor amendment N.2, *appreciating the United States' ongoing offer* to include a representative of the state on the Arctic Council. The title of CSSJR 10(RES) does not disclose this.

Although the bill was passed by the Senate containing this defect, it is my opinion that a title change to correct this defect does not require a concurrent resolution waiving the Uniform Rules. While Uniform Rule 24(c) prohibits a committee from reporting out a committee substitute or amendment that requires a title change, other than a technical one, the title change here is not "required" by an amendment or change in the second house, but rather by the defective title in the first house. Accordingly, our office has in the past considered such changes to be "technical." Unfortunately, because the title change does constitute a change to the bill, the Senate will have to concur in the title change, even if the House passed a version that was otherwise identical to the bill passed by the Senate.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

ELN:Ind
13-178.lnd

28-LS0542\C
Nauman
3/22/13

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TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

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22 Napolitano, United States Secretary of Homeland Security; the Honorable Robert Menendez,
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31 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and all other members of

1 the United States Senate.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



Senator Cathy Giessel

Senate District N

Senate Joint Resolution 10 – Arctic: Policy, USCG, Arctic Council

Sponsor Statement

Updated March 15, 2013

The Arctic has emerged as a region where U.S. strategic, political, environmental, and economic interests are at stake. International interest in the area's resource potential and the navigation opportunities for decreasing shipping times over conventional shipping routes will undoubtedly make the Arctic the focus of significant international concern in the 21st century.

The U.S. interests at stake are of particular concern to Alaskans. International Arctic policy affects Alaskans uniquely compared to other Americans. Only by virtue of Alaska is the U.S. an Arctic nation, but interest exhibited at the federal level in Arctic affairs has not been strong enough to ensure all of Alaska's interests are met. Meanwhile, our competition is mobilizing. The Russians have a fleet of 17 state owned icebreakers, six of which are nuclear powered. In 2007, they ceremonially planted a Russian flag on the Arctic seabed and resumed strategic bomber flights over the Arctic. Russia also submitted a claim to the U.N. Convention to the Law of the Sea, asserting rights to an area the size of Germany, France, and Italy combined. The Canadians and Chinese are also increasing investment in Arctic assets.

One international opportunity we appreciate is the United States' engagement in the Arctic Council. This unique high-level forum of the eight Arctic states (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden, and the United States) and Arctic indigenous people, has become an increasingly important diplomatic forum. In May 2015, the U.S. will once again assume chairmanship of the Arctic Council and guide the Arctic affairs conversation. While the U.S.'s participation in the Arctic Council is critical, additional action is warranted to protect Alaska's interests.

The Northwest Passage, located along Alaska's northern coast and northern Canada, and the Northern Sea Route over northern Eurasia pass through the Bering Strait which will experience increasing sea traffic in the years to come. Should disaster strike, be it oil spills or mariners in distress, Alaska and the U.S. should be ready and able to respond. SJR 10 urges Congress to appropriate funding to build all necessary vessels and facilities for the expansion of the Coast Guard's Arctic operations and to project a strong American presence in our northern waters.

SJR 10 promotes Alaska's international interests, which are fundamentally American interests by urging Congress to take a leadership role in guiding international Arctic policy through our nation's diplomatic, military, and economic means.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version SJR 10
 Fiscal Note Number _____
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) _____ Dept. Affected _____
 Title SJR 10 ARCTIC: POLICY, USCG, ARCTIC COUNCIL Appropriation _____
 Allocation _____
 Sponsor Senator Giessel
 Requester Senate Resources Committee OMB Component Number _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY14 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY14 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates					
			FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Services								
Commodities								
Capital Outlay								
Grants, Benefits								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)						
1002	Federal Receipts							
1003	GF Match							
1004	GF							
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)							
1037	GF/MH (UGF)							
1178	temp code (UGF)							
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS								
Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

CHANGE IN REVENUES								

Estimated **SUPPLEMENTAL (FY13) operating costs** _____ (separate supplemental appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated **CAPITAL (FY14) costs** _____ (separate capital appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? _____
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended, or repealed? _____ Discuss details in analysis section.

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Initial version.

Prepared by Senate Resources Committee
 Division _____
 Approved by /s/ Senator Giessel, Chair

Phone 465-4843
 Date/Time 2/28/13 12:00 AM
 Date 2/28/2013

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SJR 10

Analysis

No fiscal impact.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District N
*Anchorage Hillside, Indian,
Bird, Girdwood, Hope,
Cooper Landing, Sterling,
Nikiski, Moose Pass, Bear
Creek, Seward*



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Senator Cathy Giessel

SJR 10 "Arctic: Policy, USCG, Arctic Council" Summary of Changes

To reflect updated information regarding the number of icebreakers, SJR 10 vs\U was conceptually amended in Senate Resources on page 2, line 24, the total number of Russian icebreakers presently commissioned is was changed from 35 to 36.

On page 2, line 25, the correct number of Russian government-operated icebreakers presently commissioned was changed from 22 to 17.

On March 18, 2013, CS SJR 10 vs\N was adopted on the Senate floor and amended on page 4, lines 3-4 had "urges the United States" removed and replaced it with "appreciates the United States' ongoing offer since the inception of the Arctic Council"

On page 4, lines 6-8 were removed.

The most current version is CS SJR 10 (SRES) 28-LS0542\N.A

Executive Summary Background

No. 2202
October 30, 2008



Published by The Heritage Foundation

The New Cold War: Reviving the U.S. Presence in the Arctic

Ariel Cohen, Ph.D., Lajos F. Szaszdi, Ph.D., and Jim Dolbow

The Arctic is quickly reemerging as a strategic area where vital U.S. interests are at stake. The geopolitical and geo-economic importance of the Arctic region is rising rapidly, and its mineral wealth will likely transform the region into a booming economic frontier in the 21st century. The Arctic coasts and continental shelf are estimated to hold large deposits of oil, natural gas, methane hydrate (natural gas) clusters, and large quantities of valuable minerals.

With the shrinking of the polar ice cap, extended navigation through the Northwest Passage along the northern coast of North America may soon become possible with the help of icebreakers. Similarly, Russia is seeking to make the Northern Sea Route along the northern coast of Eurasia navigable for considerably longer periods of the year. Opening these shorter routes will significantly cut the time and costs of shipping.

Despite the Arctic's strategic location and vast resources, the U.S. has largely ignored this region. The United States needs to develop a comprehensive policy for the Arctic, including diplomatic, naval, military, and economic policy components. This should include swiftly mapping U.S. territorial claims to determine their extent and to defend against claims by other countries. With oil and gas prices recently at historic highs in a tight supply and demand environment, the rich hydrocarbon resources in the Arctic may bring some relief to consumers. These resources, especially the hydrocar-

bons, also have the potential to significantly enhance the economy and the energy security of North America and the world.

Russian Ambitions. Russia recognizes the multifaceted potential of the Arctic and is moving rapidly to assert its national interests. Moscow has submitted a claim to the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea to an area of 460,000 square miles—the size of Germany, France, and Italy combined. The Kremlin is pursuing its interests by projecting military power into the region and by using diplomatic instruments such as the Law of the Sea Treaty. Russia made a show of planting its flag on the Arctic seabed in August 2007 and has resumed strategic bomber flights over the Arctic for the first time since the end of the Cold War.

While paying lip service to international law, Russia's ambitious actions hearken back to 19th-century statecraft rather than the 21st-century law-based policy and appear to indicate that the Kremlin believes that credible displays of power will settle conflicting territorial claims. By comparison, the

This paper, in its entirety, can be found at:
www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/bg2202.cfm

Produced by the Douglas and Sarah Allison
Center for Foreign Policy Studies

of the
Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis
Institute for International Studies

Published by The Heritage Foundation
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Washington, DC 20002-4999
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Nothing written here is to be construed as necessarily reflecting
the views of The Heritage Foundation or as an attempt to
aid or hinder the passage of any bill before Congress.

West's posture toward the Arctic has been irresolute and inadequate. This needs to change.

Reestablishing the U.S. Arctic Presence. The United States should not rely on the findings of other nations that are mapping the Arctic floor. Timely mapping results are necessary to defending and asserting U.S. rights in bilateral and multilateral fora. The U.S. needs to increase its efforts to map the floor of the Arctic Ocean to determine the extent of the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and ascertain the extent of legitimate U.S. claims to territory beyond its 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone. To accomplish this, the U.S. needs to upgrade its icebreaker fleet. The U.S. should also continue to cooperate and advance its interests with other Arctic nations through venues such as the recent Arctic Ocean Conference in Ilulissat, Greenland.

Specifically, the United States should:

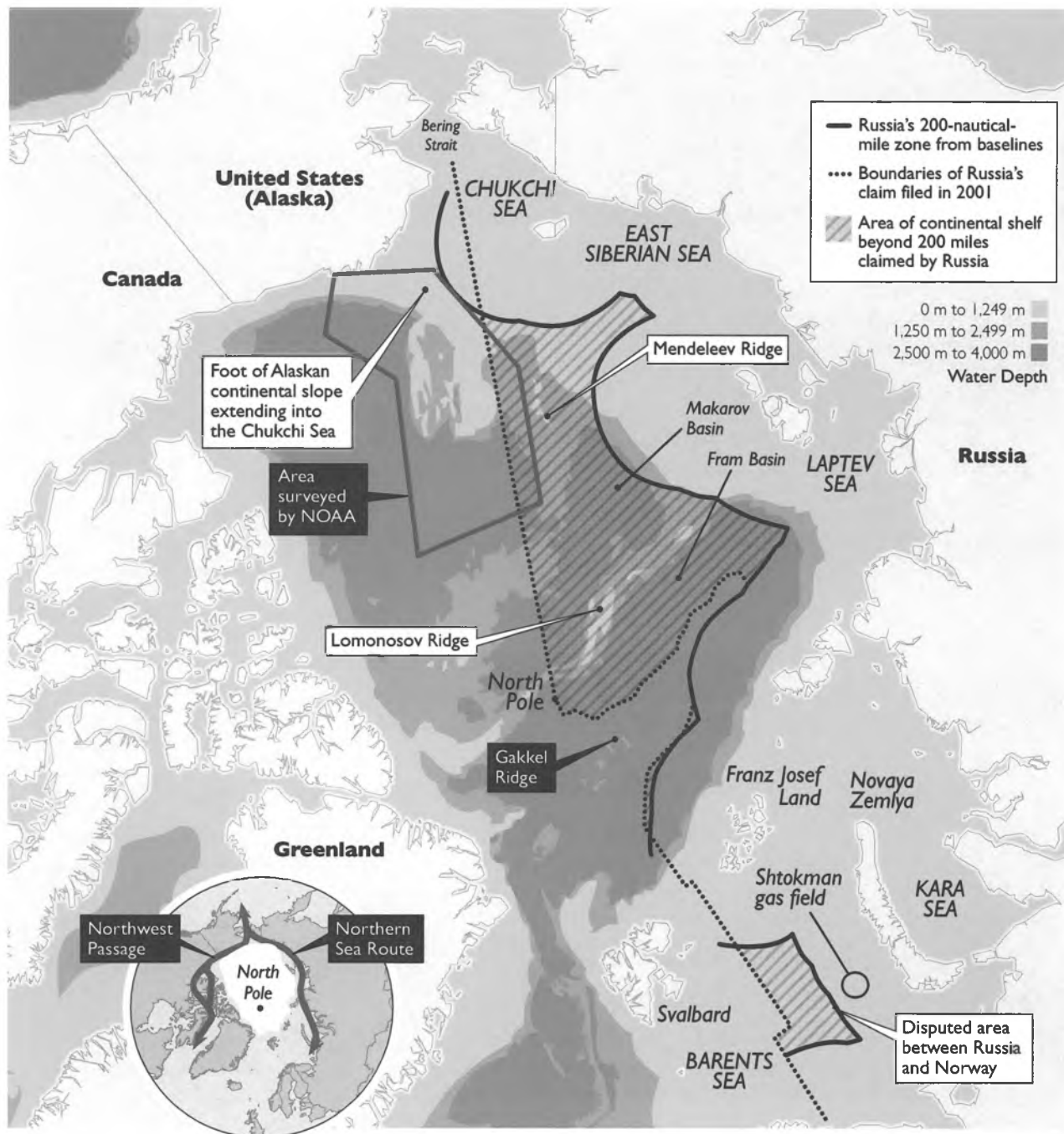
- **Create an interagency task force on the Arctic** bringing together the Departments of Defense, State, Interior, and Energy to develop the overall U.S. policy toward the region. The U.S. should use diplomatic, military, and economic means to maintain its sovereignty in the Arctic, including establishing a Joint Task Force–Arctic Region Command, headed by a Coast Guard flag officer. The U.S. should also establish an Arctic Coast Guard Forum modeled after the successful Northern Pacific Coast Guard Forum.
 - **Accelerate the acquisition of icebreakers** to support the timely mapping of the Arctic OCS and the Arctic in general to advance U.S. national interests. The U.S. needs to swiftly map U.S. claims on the OCS and areas adjacent to Alaska to preserve its sovereign territorial rights. Timely mapping will be important as the other Arctic nations submit their claims within the 10-year window. The U.S. should not rely on mapping from other countries to advance its claims or to defend against the claims of other countries.
 - **Provide the U.S. Coast Guard with a sufficient operations and maintenance budget** to support an increased, regular, and influential presence in the Arctic.
- **Reach out to Canada, Norway, Denmark, and—wherever possible—Russia.** Diplomacy and cooperation with Canada and European allies with interests in the region will be required to prevent conflict with Russia and to maintain the special relationship with Canada. The U.S. needs to work with Canada to develop a mutually beneficial framework for the commercial exploitation of Arctic hydrocarbons.
 - **Create a public–private Arctic task force** to provide a formal avenue for the private sector to advise the U.S. government on Arctic economic development. This task force should include representatives from the energy, natural resources, and shipping sectors.
 - **Authorize oil exploration and production** in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other promising Arctic areas in order to expand domestic energy production. Congress should also streamline regulations for areas that it has already opened but heavily regulated.

Conclusion. As an Arctic nation, the United States has significant geopolitical and geo-economic interests in the High North. The U.S. should not only have a place at the table, but also a leadership role in navigating the nascent challenges and opportunities, such as disputes over the Outer Continental Shelf, the navigation of Arctic sea-lanes, and commercial development of natural resources and fisheries.

To play this role and to protect its interests, the U.S. needs to revitalize its Arctic policy and commit the necessary resources to sustain America's leadership role in the High North.

—Ariel Cohen, Ph.D., is Senior Research Fellow in Russian and Eurasian Studies and International Energy Security and Lajos F. Szaszdi, Ph.D., is a Researcher in the Douglas and Sarah Allison Center for Foreign Policy Studies, a division of the Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for International Studies, at The Heritage Foundation. Jim Dolbow is a defense analyst and a member of the Editorial Board at the U.S. Naval Institute.

U.S. and Russian Interests in the Arctic



Source: Jeannette J. Lee, "New Seafloor Maps May Bolster U.S. Arctic Claims," *National Geographic News*, February 12, 2008, at <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/02/080212-AP-arctic-grab.html> (June 16, 2008).

Map 1 • B 2202 heritage.org

ISSUE BRIEF

No. 3700 | AUGUST 15, 2012

Arctic Security: Five Principles That Should Guide U.S. Policy

Luke Coffey

The Arctic region is home to some of the roughest terrain and harshest weather found anywhere in the world. Arctic ice is increasingly melting during the summer months, causing new challenges for the U.S. in terms of Arctic security. For example, the decreasing presence of ice will mean new shipping lanes opening, increased tourism, and further natural resource exploration.

This means that more actors than ever before will be operating in the region, and this will present both challenges and opportunities for the U.S. Consequently, the U.S. should organize its Arctic security capabilities appropriately. The decisions and investments made now will greatly impact how the U.S. handles future Arctic security challenges.

1. National Sovereignty as the Highest Priority. National sovereignty should be the cornerstone of

U.S. Arctic policy. In the Arctic, sovereignty equals security and stability. Respecting the national sovereignty of others in the Arctic while maintaining the ability to enforce one's own sovereignty will ensure that the chances of armed conflict in the region remain low.

The question of sovereignty is also important in terms of defining actors in the Arctic. Only national or sub-national bodies (indigenous people, for example) or purely intergovernmental organizations (such as the Arctic Council or NATO) should have a role in Arctic matters. Nevertheless, due to the possibility of shipping lanes opening, some non-Arctic countries may also have a stake, however small, in the region. For example, the Chinese have applied for Permanent Observer status in the Arctic Council. However, supranational bodies such as the European Commission should be excluded from having a formal role in Arctic matters.

2. A Focus on Situational Awareness. In many ways, the U.S. is blind in the Arctic. Anyone who has visited or operated in the Arctic will agree that situational awareness of what is happening in the region is extremely important for maintaining security there. Since

the distances are vast, the terrain is harsh, and the weather is extreme, achieving situational awareness in the Arctic region is a challenge in itself.

The Arctic environment affects many capabilities that are required for good situational awareness. For example, high-frequency radio signals are degraded in latitudes above 70 degrees north due to magnetic and solar phenomena. The Global Positioning System (GPS), which is heavily relied on by both civilian and military authorities, is degraded due to poor satellite geometry. Navigation charts of some of Alaska's shipping lanes have not been properly surveyed since Captain James Cook sailed through in 1778.

The U.S.'s ability to locate, track, and identify surface vessels is limited and depends largely on collaboration with partner nations in the Arctic. Underfunding the civilian and military capabilities required to achieve good situational awareness simply makes an already bad situation worse.

3. A Comprehensive Approach to Arctic Security. In order to establish and maintain sovereignty, robust security capabilities—both military and civilian—are needed. There is a very low threat of armed

This paper, in its entirety, can be found at <http://report.heritage.org/ib3700>

Produced by the
Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom

The Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002
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conflict in the Arctic, and it is in everyone's interest to keep it that way. Currently, the biggest security challenges arise from increased shipping, for both cargo and tourists, and increased natural resource exploration resulting from new possibilities created by melting ice.

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) has the primary responsibility for the Arctic waters of the U.S. Although the security challenges currently faced in the Arctic are not military in nature, there is still a requirement for military capability in the region that can support civilian authorities. For example, civilian search-and-rescue and natural disaster response can be augmented by the military.

Air and maritime surveillance and reconnaissance platforms operated by the military could contribute significantly to Arctic security. It is important that there is close coordination between civilian and military authorities, as both bring unique capabilities that are needed to ensure Arctic security.

4. Proper Investment. Currently, the USCG is not properly funded to carry out the tasks that are required to keep America's Arctic region secure and to enforce U.S. sovereignty in the region. The USCG has plans to extend its reach in the Arctic with icebreakers, the establishment of forward-operating locations, aviation assets, and vessels hardened to withstand the harsh conditions of the region. But it is unclear whether

this ambition will be met with financial resources.

For example, the funding for its new National Security Cutter has been reduced in the fiscal year 2013 presidential budget request without any explanation from the White House. From managing increased maritime traffic to providing search-and-rescue capability to increasing America's situational awareness, this platform is vital to ensuring America's sovereignty in the region.

The USCG also needs a new strategy for icebreaking capability. Considering the costs associated with building icebreakers and projected funding levels, the USCG will struggle to procure the six icebreakers that it deems necessary to adequately patrol Arctic waters. The USCG should explore options such as buying or even leasing commercial icebreakers with similar capabilities.

5. A Role for NATO. America's security interests in the Arctic extend beyond Alaska. Since four of the five Arctic littoral countries—in addition to Iceland—are also members of NATO, the alliance cannot afford to ignore the Arctic. Although NATO's 2010 Strategic Concept was praised for acknowledging new security challenges for the alliance such as cyber and energy security, Arctic security was not included. In fact, the word *Arctic* cannot be found in either the 2010 Strategic Concept or the 2012 Chicago NATO summit declaration.

As an Arctic power, the U.S. should be promoting Arctic awareness in the alliance and could start by calling for the next NATO summit in 2014 to be held above the Arctic Circle. This would bring immediate awareness of Arctic issues to the alliance.

The U.S. also needs to work closely with Canada, which has legitimate concerns regarding NATO's role in the Arctic. The U.S. should explain to its close partner why NATO could have a positive role in the region. Since NATO is an intergovernmental alliance of sovereign nation-states built on the consensus of all of its members, it has a role to play in Arctic security if it so chooses.

The U.S. Should Lead. America's security interests in the Arctic region will only increase in the years to come. As other nations devote resources and assets in the region to secure their national interests, America cannot afford to fall behind. Since the U.S. is the only littoral Arctic country not to have an Arctic strategy, the White House should lead on the development of a cross-government strategy. However, a strategy is meaningless without the resources to back it up.

—*Luke Coffey is the Margaret Thatcher Fellow in the Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom, a division of the Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for International Studies, at The Heritage Foundation.*

MAJOR ICEBREAKERS OF THE WORLD

RUSSIA
(36)
+ 5 under construction
+ 8 planned

50 Let Pobedy (2007)	Sovetskiy Soyuz (1990 refit 2014)	Rossiya (1985 refit 2007)	Yamal (1993)	Vaygach (1990)	Taymyr (1989)	L-60 (2015)	L-60 (Estimated 2016)		
L-110 (Estimated 2017)	L-60 (Estimated 2017)	Vitus Bering (2013)	Akademic Trishnikov (2011)	Varanda (2008)	St. Petersburg (2008)	Moskva (2007)	Vladislav Strizhov (2006)	Yuri Topchev (1978)	Pacific Enterprise (2006)
Pacific Endeavor (2006)	Pacific Endurance (1988)	Kapitan Dranitsyn (1980 refit 1999)	Kapitan Sorokin (1977 refit 1990)	Vladimir Ignatyuk (1977 refit 1982)	Kapitan Khebnikov (1981)	Kapitan Nikolayev (1978)	Krasin (1976)		
Admiral Makarov (1975)	Yermak (1974)	Alexey Chiriov (2013)	Project 2260 (2015)	Project 21900M (2015)	Project 21900M (Estimated 2015)	Project 21900M (Estimated 2015)			
Fesco Sakhalin (2005)	Vasily Golovnin (1988)	Akademic Federov (1987)	Ikaluk (1983)	Smit Sakhalin (1983)	Dikson (1983)	Muduyug (1982)	Maadan (1982)		
Kigoriak (1978)	Talaqi (1978)	Dudinka (1970)	Tor (1964)	R-70202 (2013)	R-70202 (2014)	R-70202 (2015)	R-70202 (2016)		

SWEDEN
(7)

Oden (1989)	Ymer (1977)	Frei (1975)	Atle (1974)
Vidar Viking (2001)	Tor Viking II (2011)	Balder Viking (2011)	

FINLAND
(7)

Nordica (1994)	Fennica (1993)	Kontio (1987)	Otso (1986)	Sisu (1976)	Urho (1975)
Volma (1954 refit 1979)					

CANADA
(6)
+ 1 planned

Louis St. Laurent (1969 refit 1993)	Terry Fox (1983)	John G. Diefenbacher (Estimated 2017)
Amundsen (Estimated return 2013)	Henry Larsen (1988)	Des Groseillers (1983)
	Pierre Radisson (1978)	

USA
(5)

Polar Sea (Inactive 2011)	Polar Star (Estimated return 2014)
Healy (2000)	Aivag (2012)
Nathaniel B. Palmer (1992)	

DENMARK
(4)

Brage Viking (2012)	Magne Viking (2011)	Loke Viking (2011)	Njord Viking (2011)
---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	---------------------

CHINA
(1)
+ 1 planned

Xue Long (1993)	Polar Support Vessel (Estimated 2014)
-----------------	---------------------------------------

ARGENTINA
(1)

Almirante Irizar (estimated return 2012/13)

AUSTRALIA
(1)

Aurora Aurtralls (1990)

CHILE
(1)

Almirante Oscar Viel (1967)

ESTONIA
(2)

Botnica (1998)	Tarmo (1963)
----------------	--------------

GERMANY
(1)
+ 1 planned

Polarstern (1982)	Polar Research Vessel (Estimated 2016)
-------------------	--

JAPAN
(1)

Shirase (2009)

SOUTH KOREA
(1)

Araon (2009)

SOUTH AFRICA
(1)

Agulhas II (2012)

LATVIA
(1)

Varma

NORWAY
(1)
+ 1 planned

Svalbard (2002)	Polar Research Vessel (Estimated 2015)
-----------------	--

KEY

Vessels were selected and organized based on their installed power measured in Brake Horse Power (BHP). Vessels with less than 10,000 BHP were not considered to be capable of independent arctic operation. Vessels are ordered by age, youngest first, within power groupings. Vessel outlines reflect relative sizes.

COLOR GUIDE

	Power Plant
	≥ 45,000 BHP
	≥ 20,000 BHP
	< 45,000 BHP
	≥ 10,000 BHP
	< 20,000 BHP
	Under Construction
	Planned

NOTES

- Government owned or operated
- Unavailable
- Nuclear Power
- Designed for Baltic use
- Been to the North Pole

Data derived from various sources
Updated: 20 February 2013

An electronic copy of the most current chart is located at:
<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg552/ice.asp>

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Acquisition Directorate

POLAR ICE BREAKER

Mission execution begins here.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Coast Guard's polar fleet, which includes one 399-foot heavy icebreaker (Coast Guard Cutter Polar Star) and one 420-foot polar icebreaker (Coast Guard Cutter Healy), as well as some ice-capable tugs and tenders, represents a national capability. With commerce and traffic on the Arctic Ocean increasing, including petrochemical exploration and fisheries, the United States has vital national interest in maintaining robust polar icebreaking capability to ensure year-round Coast Guard presence in these important waters.

When refurbished by 2014, the Coast Guard Cutter Polar Star will be the service's only operational heavy icebreaker. This important, but venerable platform will serve until 2020 but that is only the beginning of the story. The Coast Guard's mission requirements, including marine environmental protection, dictate that the service maintain heavy icebreaking capability for the foreseeable future.

The Coast Guard now is in the preliminary phase of a new, heavy polar icebreaker acquisition project. This stage in the process includes developing a formal mission need statement, a concept of operations, and an operational requirements document – all necessary before developing and implementing a detailed acquisition project plan.

In order to fully fund subsequent phases of this project, the Coast Guard believes that a “whole-of-government” approach will be necessary. Obtaining a new, heavy polar icebreaker that meets Coast Guard requirements will depend upon supplementary financing from other agencies whose activities also rely upon the nation possessing a robust, Arctic-capable surface fleet.

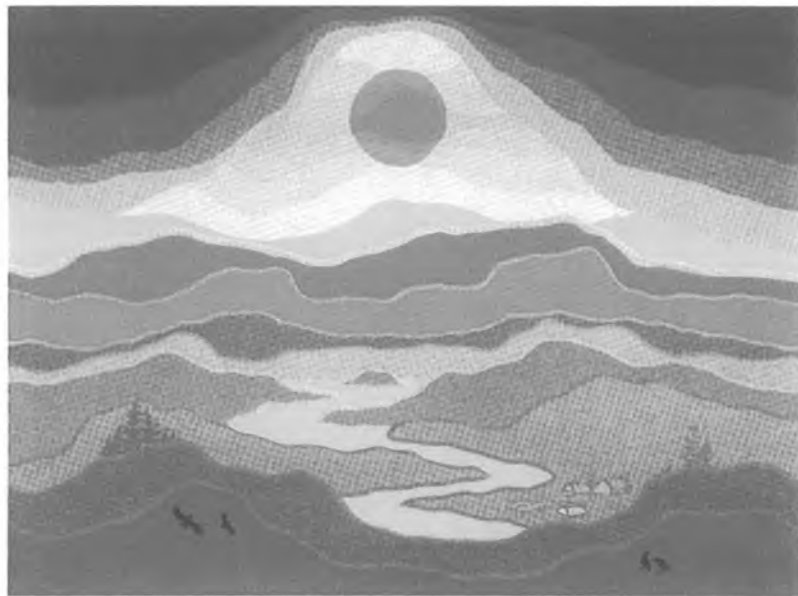


Coast Guard Cutter Polar Star



Coast Guard Cutter Healy

(Research Vessel)



Arctic Council

DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF THE GOVERNMENTS
OF THE ARCTIC COUNTRIES ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

Ottawa, Canada

September 19, 1996

DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

THE REPRESENTATIVES of the Governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America (hereinafter referred to as the Arctic States) meeting in Ottawa;

AFFIRMING our commitment to the well-being of the inhabitants of the Arctic, including recognition of the special relationship and unique contributions to the Arctic of indigenous people and their communities;

AFFIRMING our commitment to sustainable development in the Arctic region, including economic and social development, improved health conditions and cultural well-being;

AFFIRMING concurrently our commitment to the protection of the Arctic environment, including the health of Arctic ecosystems, maintenance of biodiversity in the Arctic region and conservation and sustainable use of natural resources;

RECOGNIZING the contributions of the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy to these commitments;

RECOGNIZING the traditional knowledge of the indigenous people of the Arctic and their communities and taking note of its importance and that of Arctic science and research to the collective understanding of the circumpolar Arctic;

DESIRING further to provide a means for promoting cooperative activities to address Arctic issues requiring circumpolar cooperation, and to ensure full consultation with and the full involvement of indigenous people and their communities and other inhabitants of the Arctic in such activities;

RECOGNIZING the valuable contribution and support of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, Saami Council, and the Association of the Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia, and the Far East of the Russian Federation in the development of the Arctic Council;

DESIRING to provide for regular intergovernmental consideration of and consultation on Arctic issues.

HEREBY DECLARE:

1. The Arctic Council is established as a high level forum to:
 - (a) provide a means for promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, with the involvement of the Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues¹, in particular issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic.
 - (b) oversee and coordinate the programs established under the AEPS on the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP); Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF); Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME); and Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR).

¹The Arctic Council should not deal with matters related to military security.

- (c) adopt terms of reference for, and oversee and coordinate a sustainable development program.
 - (d) disseminate information, encourage education and promote interest in Arctic-related issues.
2. Members of the Arctic Council are: Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America (the Arctic States).

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council and the Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation are Permanent Participants in the Arctic Council. Permanent participation equally is open to other Arctic organizations of indigenous peoples²¹ with majority Arctic indigenous constituency, representing:

- (a) a single indigenous people resident in more than one Arctic State; or
- (b) more than one Arctic indigenous people resident in a single Arctic state.

The determination that such an organization has met this criterion is to be made by decision of the Council. The number of Permanent Participants should at any time be less than the number of members.

The category of Permanent Participation is created to provide for active participation and full consultation with the Arctic indigenous representatives within the Arctic Council.


3. Observer status in the Arctic Council is open to:
- (a) non-Arctic states;
 - (b) inter-governmental and inter-parliamentary organizations, global and regional; and
 - (c) non-governmental organizations
- that the Council determines can contribute to its work.
4. The Council should normally meet on a biennial basis, with meetings of senior officials taking place more frequently, to provide for liaison and co-ordination. Each Arctic State should designate a focal point on matters related to the Arctic Council.
5. Responsibility for hosting meetings of the Arctic Council, including provision of secretariat support functions, should rotate sequentially among the Arctic States.
6. The Arctic Council, as its first order of business, should adopt rules of procedure for its meetings and those of its working groups.
7. Decisions of the Arctic Council are to be by consensus of the Members.

²¹The use of the term "peoples" in this Declaration shall not be construed as having any implications as regard the rights which may attach to the term under international law.

8. The Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat established under AEPS is to continue under the framework of the Arctic Council.
9. The Arctic Council should regularly review the priorities and financing of its programs and associated structures.

THEREFORE, we the undersigned representatives of our respective Governments, recognizing the Arctic Council's political significance and intending to promote its results, have signed this Declaration.

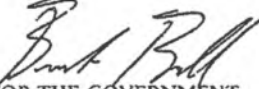
SIGNED by the representatives of the Arctic States in Ottawa, this 19th day of September 1996.



FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF CANADA


FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF DENMARK

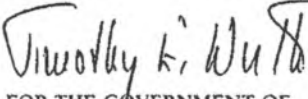

FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF FINLAND


FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF ICELAND


FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF NORWAY


FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION


FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF SWEDEN


FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

JOINT COMMUNIQUE
OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE ARCTIC
COUNTRIES
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC
COUNCIL

Ministers and Senior Representatives of the Governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States of America met in Ottawa, Canada, on September 19, 1996, and signed the Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council.

This inaugural meeting was attended by the leaders and senior representatives of three international Arctic indigenous organizations - the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council, and the Association of Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia, and the Far East of the Russian Federation, as Permanent Participants in the Council.

Also present at the signing ceremony were the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region; the Nordic Council of Ministers; the Nordic Council Finnish Secretariat; the non-Arctic States of Great Britain, Germany, Japan, Poland and the Netherlands; the International Union for Circumpolar Health; the International Arctic Science Committee; the United Nations Environment Programme; the International Union for the Conservation of Nature; the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea; and the World Wildlife Fund.

Ministers viewed the establishment of this new intergovernmental forum as an important milestone in their commitment to enhance cooperation in the circumpolar North. The Council will provide a mechanism for addressing the common concerns and challenges faced by their governments and the people of the Arctic. To this end, Ministers referred particularly to the protection of the Arctic environment and sustainable development as a means of improving the economic, social and cultural well-being in the North.

Ministers noted that the indigenous people of the Arctic have played an important role in the negotiations to create the Arctic Council. The Declaration provides for their full consultation and involvement in the Arctic Council. To this end, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council, and the Association of the Indigenous Minorities of the North, Siberia, and the Far East of the Russian Federation, are named as Permanent Participants in the Arctic Council. Provision is also made for additional organizations representing Arctic indigenous people to become Permanent Participants.

Ministers acknowledged the significant work accomplished under the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS), whose existing programs will be integrated within the Council. They agreed to complete the integration process by the time of the final AEPS Ministerial meeting being held in Norway in 1997.

The Ministers recognized the contribution of international science to the knowledge and understanding of the Arctic region and noted the role that scientific cooperation, through the International Arctic Science Committee and other organizations, is playing in developing a truly circumpolar cooperation.

Ministers welcomed the attendance of the Standing Committee of the Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region and looked forward to its future participation in the meetings of the Council. They also recognized the need for providing the opportunity to non-Arctic countries, governmental and non-governmental organizations with Arctic interests to participate actively, as Observers, in the work of the Council, and to draw on their experience.

Ministers set the initial priority tasks for the start-up of the Council as follows:

- developing, for adoption by the Council, rules of procedure;
- developing, for adoption by the Council, terms of reference for a sustainable development program as a basis for collaborative projects; and
- ensuring an effective transition of the AEPS into the Arctic Council, to be completed at the time of the 1997 AEPS Ministerial meeting in Norway.

Ministers expressed their appreciation to Canada for hosting the inauguration of the Arctic Council, and welcomed Canada's offer to host the first meeting of the Council in 1998.



Arctic military policy discussed

Adm. talks Polar Sea, USCG activities at Capitol hearing

Posted: February 15, 2013 - 12:06am

By MARK D. MILLER

JUNEAU EMPIRE

A heavy polar icebreaker reactivated last December will be ready for service by summer, United States Coast Guard Rear Adm. Thomas Ostebo told members of the Alaska State Legislature's joint Armed Services Committee during its first meeting of the year Thursday.

Ostebo, along with U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Stephen L. Hoog, commander of Alaskan Command, and U.S. Army Major Gen. Thomas Katkus, commissioner of the Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, testified before the committee on the status of the U.S. military in Alaska.

The USCGC Polar Star is being readied for active duty now, according to Ostebo, who is the commander of Coast Guard District 17.

"She'll be back in service by next summer, with some early run-up work taking place up here in Alaska," said Ostebo, responding to a question from Sen. Fred Dyson, R-Eagle River. "She comes up here to break some ice and get her crews trained up, and then she'll be turning down towards Antarctica to help with the McMurdo (Sound) breakout next winter."

Ostebo is based in Juneau, from which he oversees Coast Guard operations for all of Alaska.

The USCGC Healy, the Coast Guard's only active polar icebreaker, made port in Juneau last fall on its way down to Seattle for maintenance.

Ostebo praised the Healy as "extremely valuable," but added, "Healy, while quite capable, is limited in her icebreaking capabilities. She is technically a medium icebreaker."

Polar Star and its sister ship, Polar Sea, which Ostebo said is in "caretaker status" right now with no plans to reactivate it, are the largest icebreakers in the world not powered by a nuclear reactor.

During his presentation, Ostebo discussed other Coast Guard activities in the Arctic, such as last year's Arctic Shield exercise, which Hoog also talked about.

Arctic Shield, which spanned February to October 2012, saw an unprecedented level of Coast Guard resources shifted to Alaska's North Slope, above the Arctic Circle and far from the major Coast Guard installations in Kodiak and Sitka. Among other scenarios, it simulated an oil spill near Barrow, testing Coast Guard and U.S. Navy water skimming equipment to assess how the military would handle an actual spill.

"We successfully deployed and operated both Coast Guard and (Department of Defense) skimming equipment from a Coast Guard cutter," said Hoog. "This was the first time DoD equipment had been used in this fashion in Alaska. We captured many lessons learned with regard to execution and logistics."

Unlike the other four branches of the U.S. military, which operate under the Department of Defense, the Coast Guard is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Homeland Security. Despite this division, in Alaska and elsewhere — including the Afghanistan warzone — the Coast Guard works together closely with the Army, Navy, Air Force and U.S. Marine Corps, a point reiterated by Ostebo, Hoog and Katkus throughout their presentations.

In the case of Arctic Shield, Ostebo said the mission was devised by District 17 personnel "to respond to the dramatic increases in Arctic activity" in recent years. He called it "a resounding success."

"The lessons learned and the experience gained from our activities north of the Arctic Circle will help refine and improve the Coast Guard's Arctic presence," said Ostebo.

Rep. Dan Saddler, R-Eagle River, who chaired the committee meeting, asked about the Coast Guard's future Arctic plans.

"Given the increasing outer continental shelf activity ... and the increased shipping along the great circle route and the Northwest Passage and the northern route, what are the long-term plans for any permanent Coast Guard presence in or near the Arctic?" Saddler asked. "Kodiak's great, but it's a little far away."

"Part of the mission of Arctic Shield 2012 was to evaluate our response capability and the assets that we have to provide a long-term presence in the Arctic," Ostebo responded. "Clearly, every indication is that the Arctic will continue to grow in its relevance in the maritime community, and the Coast Guard is evaluating our strategic and long-term presence up there — both off-shore, with more and better capable ships, as well as on-shore presence,

primarily with a seasonal air facility.”

Increasing traffic across maritime boundaries like Dixon Entrance and Unimak Pass poses another “very specific and very interesting problem” for the Coast Guard, which is tasked with responding to “maritime accidents” that could result in casualties or environmental damage, Ostebo told the committee.

“I probably don’t have to remind most of the folks here (of) tragedies that we’ve had in the past,” said Ostebo. “They give me pause and concern for the international strait known as Unimak Pass and for the international strait known as Dixon Entrance, both of which have had major growth in maritime traffic.”

Ostebo also talked about the Coast Guard’s role in responding to the grounding of the drill ship Kulluk off Kodiak Island last December.

“I’m proud to report that as of today, our two main goals in this mission ... have been accomplished,” Ostebo said. “And that first goal was ... nobody gets killed and we don’t get anybody hurt. And number two is we have no environmental damage and no pollution. And both of those objectives have been, as of today, completed.”

• Contact reporter Mark D. Miller at 586-1821 or at mark.d.miller@juneauempire.com.

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CLOSE X

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District N
*Anchorage Hillside, Indian,
Bird, Girdwood, Hope,
Cooper Landing, Sterling,
Nikiski, Moose Pass, Bear
Creek, Seward*



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Senator Cathy Giessel

Response to Sen. French's questions Re: SJR 10 – Arctic: Policy, USCG, Arctic Council

Senator French asked what the cost of a new icebreaker is during the Senate Resources hearing on Monday, March 4, 2013.

A High Latitude Study provided to Congress in July 2011 and appearing in a December 2012 Congressional Research Service report, gave the following estimated acquisition costs of a new polar icebreaker in "rough order-of-magnitude costs":

- \$856 million for 1 ship;
- \$1.663 billion for 2 ships—an average of about \$832 million each;
- \$2.439 billion for 3 ships—an average of \$813 million each;
- \$3.207 billion for 4 ships—an average of about \$802 million each;
- \$3.961 billion for 5 ships—an average of about \$792 million each; and
- \$4.704 billion for 6 ships—an average of \$784 million each¹

¹ Coast Guard Polar Icebreaker Modernization: Background and Issues for Congress (RL34391; Dec. 21, 2012), by Ronald O'Rourke. Text in ProQuest[®] Congressional Research Digital Collection; Accessed: March 4, 2013. Page 17

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District N
Anchorage Hillside, Indian,
Bird, Girdwood, Hope,
Cooper Landing, Sterling,
Nikiski, Moose Pass, Bear
Creek, Seward



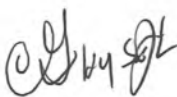
State Capitol, Room 427
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800-892-4843

Senator Cathy Giessel

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 19, 2013

TO: Representative Bob Lynn, Chair
House State Affairs

FROM: Senator Cathy Giessel 

RE: Request to be heard: SJR 10 "Arctic: Policy, USCG, Arctic Council"

I respectfully request that SJR 10 "Arctic: Policy, USCG, Arctic Council" be scheduled to be heard in the House State Affairs Committee at your earliest convenience, pending referral.

SJR 10 urges sufficient funding of the U.S. Coast Guard for its Arctic operations, appreciates the federal government's ongoing collaboration with Alaska in the U.S.'s Arctic Council participation, and recommends the U.S. assert its various Arctic interests through its available means.

Attached please find the following documents:

- CS SJR 10 (SRES) 28-LS0542\N.A
- Sponsor Statement
- Fiscal Note
- Summary of changes from SJR 10 28-LS0542\U, CS SJR 10 (SRES) 28-LS0542\N
- Support Materials
 - Cohen, Szaszdi, Dolbow. "The New Cold War: Reviving the U.S. Presence in the Arctic" Executive Summary. *Heritage Foundation*. October 30, 2008.
 - Coffey. "Arctic Security: Five Principles That Should Guide U.S. Policy." *Heritage Foundation*. Issue Brief 3700. August 15, 2012
 - Major Icebreakers Chart – February 20, 2013
 - USCG Acquisition Directorate Polar Icebreaker
 - Ottawa Declaration (1996)
 - Miller. "Arctic Military Policy Discussed." *Juneau Empire*. February 15, 2013
 - Responses to SRES committee question on icebreaker costs – March 4, 2013

Contact: Joe Byrnes (465-8180)

Joe Byrnes

From: Sharon Long
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 5:31 PM
To: Joe Byrnes
Cc: Margaret Dowling
Subject: FW: SJR10 will be HSTA on house side

Rep Lynn
HSTA 465-4931

Joe, please have the request to be heard ready to go over to HSTA ASAP. We'd like them to include it in the Thursday (Mar. 21) notice for the following week. Nancy Manly is the aide to talk to. We could get it to them "pending referral" tomorrow.

hearing request
memo

Thanks,
sjl

From: Tom Wright
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 4:55 PM
To: Ginger Blaisdell
Subject: RE: SJR10 arctic

Ginger:

It involves economic development among many other subjects including icebreakers. Will be referred to State Affairs because of the multitude of issues.

From: Ginger Blaisdell
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 4:52 PM
To: Tom Wright
Subject: SJR10 arctic

I was watching the Senate floor today and realized that SJR10 might fit in well with a committee hearing we are holding in EDTT on Thursday March 28 regarding Arctic economic development and opportunities. SJR10 is Sen Giessel's bill and received one committee referral to (S)RES; Sharon Long just spoke with Linda Hay and (H)RES is loaded so she is fine with a referral to EDTT rather than RES.

Up to you...
ginger

*Office of Representative Shelley Hughes
Room 409 State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811
907-465-5265*

If you would like to receive Rep. Hughes' electronic newsletter, please click [here](#).

[Follow Rep. Hughes on Facebook](#)

28-LS0542\N.A

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 10(RES) am

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Amended: 3/18/13

Offered: 3/6/13

Sponsor(s): SENATORS GIESSEL, McGuire, Hoffman, Micciche, Stevens, Olson, Dyson, Stedman, Bishop, Dunleavy, Gardner

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the presence and interests of the state and the nation in the Arctic; urging
 2 appointment of a representative of the state to the Arctic Council; relating to
 3 icebreakers; and relating to United States Coast Guard operations and facilities in the
 4 Arctic.

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

6 WHEREAS this state alone qualifies the United States as an Arctic nation; and
 7 WHEREAS, according to the United States Geological Survey, the Arctic may hold
 8 up to 90,000,000,000 barrels of oil, the equivalent of 13 percent of the world's undiscovered
 9 oil reserves, and 47.3 trillion cubic meters of natural gas, the equivalent of 30 percent of the
 10 world's undiscovered natural gas reserves, and the development of these resources would have
 11 a profound economic effect on the state and promote energy security for the nation; and

12 WHEREAS the amount of Arctic Ocean ice during the summer months has
 13 increasingly diminished, resulting in the opening of international shipping lanes through the
 14 Arctic; and

15 WHEREAS the Northwest Passage along North America and the Northern Sea Route

SJR010C

-1-

CSSJR 10(RES) am

New Text Underlined [DELETED TEXT BRACKETED]

1 along Eurasia both pass through the Bering Strait and decrease shipping time and costs
 2 between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans compared to traveling conventional routes through
 3 the Suez Canal or Panama Canal; and

4 WHEREAS growing interest in economic and strategic opportunities in the Arctic has
 5 led the Russian Federation to announce its interests in the region and, in August 2007, to plant
 6 a Russian flag on the Arctic Ocean seabed and resume strategic bomber flights over the Arctic
 7 region for the first time since the end of the Cold War; and

8 WHEREAS Russia has submitted a claim to the United Nations Convention on the
 9 Law of the Sea to an area of 460,000 square miles in the Arctic Ocean, an area the size of
 10 Germany, France, and Italy combined; and

11 WHEREAS the United States Coast Guard does not have a base on or adjacent to the
 12 Arctic Ocean, inhibiting the nation's ability to respond to situations that could threaten United
 13 States sovereignty in the Arctic and reducing the nation's emergency and disaster
 14 preparedness in the area; and

15 WHEREAS increasing interest in the Arctic as a result of emerging geopolitical and
 16 economic factors has created a national priority for the United States to map the Arctic floor,
 17 which is essential to establish legitimate claims to areas beyond the 200 nautical mile
 18 exclusive economic zone and best assert the nation's rights in the international community;
 19 and

20 WHEREAS, as the use of international shipping lanes through the Arctic Ocean
 21 becomes possible, the demand for icebreaker vessels is increasing; and

22 WHEREAS Canada currently has six icebreaker vessels, with a plan to complete a
 23 seventh, the 459-foot John G. Diefenbaker, in 2017; and

24 WHEREAS the Russian icebreaker fleet is the largest in the world, with 36 vessels,
 25 including 17 government-operated icebreakers and six nuclear-powered icebreakers with at
 26 least 45,000 brake horsepower; and

27 WHEREAS a seventh nuclear-powered Russian icebreaker is currently under
 28 construction, and three more nuclear-powered icebreakers are planned for completion by
 29 2017; and

30 WHEREAS the most powerful icebreaker in the world, the Russian nuclear-powered
 31 50 Years of Victory, commissioned in 2007, is 524 feet long, has 75,000 horsepower, and can

CSSJR 10(RES) am

-2-

SJR010C

New Text Underlined [DELETED TEXT BRACKETED]

1 break ice up to 9.2 feet thick; and

2 **WHEREAS** the United States has five icebreakers, only three of which are United
3 States Coast Guard vessels; and

4 **WHEREAS** only one of the United States Coast Guard icebreakers, the USCGC
5 Healy, which has 30,000 horsepower and was designed primarily for research purposes, is
6 presently in service; and

7 **WHEREAS**, of the two other United States Coast Guard icebreakers, the USCGC
8 Polar Star and the USCGC Polar Sea, constructed in 1976 and 1977, the USCGC Polar Sea is
9 unlikely to return to service and the USCGC Polar Star is not anticipated to return to service
10 until late 2013 at the earliest; and

11 **WHEREAS** the Arctic Council is a high-level forum of Arctic states, is the only
12 circumpolar forum that includes all of the Arctic states, and includes participation of Arctic
13 indigenous peoples for the purpose of holding political discussions on Arctic issues shared in
14 common and fostering Arctic cooperation; and

15 **WHEREAS** the Arctic Council includes official state representatives from the
16 governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation,
17 Sweden, and the United States; and

18 **WHEREAS** the chairmanship of the Arctic Council rotates every two years and,
19 following the chairmanship of Canada beginning in May 2013, the United States will assume
20 chairmanship of the Arctic Council in May 2015; and

21 **WHEREAS** the United States has a presence on the Arctic Council only because of
22 Alaska's location in the Arctic; and

23 **WHEREAS**, in 2011, in the spirit of cooperation between the Arctic states, and
24 cognizant of the harsh conditions that pose a challenge to search and rescue operations in the
25 Arctic and the vital importance of providing rapid assistance to persons in distress in those
26 circumstances, the Arctic Council signed the council's first legally binding agreement in
27 Nuuk, Greenland, to coordinate search and rescue operations in the Arctic Ocean; and

28 **WHEREAS** the official state delegation of Canada to the Arctic Council includes
29 representatives from the governments of the territories of Yukon and Nunavut; and

30 **WHEREAS** the official United States delegation to the Arctic Council does not
31 include any officially appointed representative from Alaska; and

1 **WHEREAS** the interests of the state are directly affected by Arctic policy;

2 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature, recognizing the importance of
3 diplomatic opportunities and the particular effect of Arctic policy on the state's interests,
4 appreciates the United States' ongoing offer since the inception of the Arctic Council to
5 include a designated representative from this state as a member of its official delegation to the
6 Arctic Council; and be it

7 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States
8 Congress and the President of the United States to provide the United States Coast Guard with
9 sufficient funding to expand its Arctic operations, retrofit the nation's existing icebreaker
10 fleet, build needed vessels and facilities, including icebreakers and a United States Coast
11 Guard base for Arctic operations, to map the United States outer continental shelf for the
12 purpose of preserving and defending the nation's sovereign territorial rights, and to maintain a
13 strong presence in the region; and be it

14 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States to
15 continue to assert its political, strategic, environmental, and economic interests in the Arctic,
16 with particular emphasis on the well-being of the state, and to take a leadership role in guiding
17 international Arctic policy through diplomatic, military, and economic means.

18 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
19 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
20 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable John F. Kerry, United States Secretary of State;
21 General Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Honorable Janet A.
22 Napolitano, United States Secretary of Homeland Security; the Honorable Robert Menendez,
23 Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; the Honorable Michael T. McCaul,
24 Chair of the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security; the Honorable Thomas R. Carper,
25 Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; the
26 Honorable Barbara Mikulski, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations; the
27 Honorable Dave Camp, Chair of the U.S. House Ways and Means Committee; the Honorable
28 Bob Corker, ranking member, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Admiral Robert
29 J. Papp, Jr., Commandant of the United States Coast Guard; and the Honorable Lisa
30 Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young,
31 U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress; and all other members of

1 the United States Senate.

Alaska State Legislature

Chairman
State Affairs Committee

Member
Vice-Chair Judiciary Committee
Transportation Committee
Joint Armed Services Committee

Finance Subcommittees
Administration
Corrections
Military and Veterans' Affairs



A Communication From
REPRESENTATIVE BOB LYNN
District 23 Anchorage

E-Mail: Rep.Bob.Lynn@akleg.gov

Session:
Alaska State Capitol, #108
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Phone: (907) 465-4931
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Phone: (907) 269-0205
Fax: (907) 269-0207

January 23, 2013

To: House STA Committee Members and Staff
Fr: Representative Bob Lynn, Chair
House State Affairs Committee
Re: House State Affairs Bills Scheduling Request Guidelines

The House State Affairs Committee meets Tuesday, Thursdays from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. (and Saturday's from 10:00 to 12:00pm as needed) in Room 106.

Please deliver one hard copy and one electronic copy of the following information. Your bill packets must be complete to get the bill scheduled:

- ✓• Memo from Sponsor (on letterhead) requesting a House Committee Hearing
- ✓• Current version of the bill
- ✓• Any fiscal note(s)
- ✓• Sponsor Statement
- Sectional Analysis for complicated or lengthy legislation.
- ✓• Explanation of Changes – a brief description tracking the changes that have occurred between versions
 - Request for teleconferencing, including a list of witnesses and sites
 - Request for any audio/visual equipment for presentations if needed
- ✓• Name and direct line of staff member assigned to the legislation
- Pertinent background information:
 1. research
 2. legal opinions
 3. letters of support and opposition (Please note that all materials must include the NAME of the distributing entity.)

UPDATE

The deadline for submitting extra materials for inclusion in committee packets or to request special equipment (such as power point technology or screens) for a presentation is noon the day before your bill is scheduled for a hearing.

We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to hearing your bills. Feel free to contact my committee aide, Nancy Manly, at 465-2794 if you have any other questions or concerns.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate District N
*Anchorage Hillside, Indian,
Bird, Girdwood, Hope,
Cooper Landing, Sterling,
Nikiski, Moose Pass, Bear
Creek, Seward*



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Senator Cathy Giessel

Response to questions in House State Affairs March 28, 2013 Re: SJR 10 – Arctic: Policy, USCG, Arctic Council

Representative Hughes asked for information regarding Canada's priorities during its upcoming 2013-2015 chairmanship of the Arctic Council.

In August 2012, Canada Prime Minister Harper appointed Leona Aglukkaq of Nunavut as Canada's first dedicated minister of the Arctic Council. During a speech delivered on January 21, 2013 in Tromsø, Norway, she outlined the overarching theme of Canada's chairmanship as **Development for the People of the North** with the wellbeing and prosperity of people living in the north as Canada's top priority. With its Arctic Council partners, she said Canada will focus on "creating economic growth, strong and sustainable Northern communities and healthy ecosystems."

Under the overarching theme, Minister Aglukkaq proposed the following three subthemes:

1. **Responsible Arctic Resource Development.** Canada recognizes the great potential for wealth and job creation through the development of natural resources and the necessity to develop these resources in a responsible and environmentally sound manner. Canada is also committed to enhance the relationship with the business sector begun during the Sweden chairmanship to find increasing opportunities for the business sector to work with the council to share best practices and lessons learned in the circumpolar north.
2. **Safe Arctic Shipping.** Canada plans to continue to work on the council's oil-spill prevention plan in the Arctic as well as develop guidelines for tourism and cruise ship operators in the Arctic.
3. **Sustainable Circumpolar Communities.** Canada hopes to address challenges faced by Northerners by sharing best practices

Minister Aglukkaq also emphasized the importance of "traditional knowledge" from Arctic indigenous peoples along with scientific research and policy making in the future successes of the Arctic Council.¹

¹ Leona Aglukkaq, "Address by Minister Aglukkaq at Arctic Frontiers Conference." Tromsø, Norway. January 21, 2013. <http://www.international.gc.ca/media/arctic-arctique/speeches-discours/2013/01/23a.aspx?lang=eng&view=d>

Response to questions in House State Affairs Re: SJR 10

Representative Keller sought clarification on the two year rotation of the Arctic Council chairmanship and locations of the Arctic Council meetings.

The Arctic Council chairmanship rotates every two years between the eight members states. The following lists the chairmanships and locations taken from the History page on the Arctic Council website:²

- Canada: Inauguration of Arctic Council - 1998 (Ministerial Meeting held in Iqaluit, Canada 1998)
- United States of America: 1998 - 2000 (Ministerial Meeting held in Barrow, Alaska 2000)
- Finland: 2000-2002 (Ministerial Meeting held in Inari, Finland 2002)
- Iceland: 2002-2004 (Ministerial Meeting held in Reykjavik, Iceland 2004)
- Russian Federation: 2004-2006 (Ministerial Meeting held in Salekhard, Russian Federation, 2006)
- Norway: 2006-March 2009 (Ministerial Meeting held in Tromsø, Norway 2009)
- Denmark: 2009-2011 (Ministerial Meeting held in Nuuk, Greenland 2011)
- Sweden: 2011-2013 (Assumed AC Chairmanship on 12 May 2011)

² "History: The Establishment of the Arctic Council," <http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en/about-us/history>