

HJR

13

<TARGET><BILL>HJR 13</BILL><SUBJECT>HJR
13</SUBJECT><COMM>SSTA29</COMM></TARGET>

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 2/18/15

FURTHER Rules
 DATE TURNED
 IN TO OFFICE: 2/26/15

State Affairs Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13(MLV)

HJR 13 RETAIN ARMY FORCES IN ALASKA

Urging the United States Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-capable structure in the state and not to take structural realignment actions with regard to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf- Richardson.

and recommends:

be replaced with SCS CSHJR 13 (STA) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
 New Title/SCR No. 5

[] adopt previous SCS _____ (_____) [] Same Title [] Technical Title Change
 [] New Title/SCR No. _____

[] attached amendment(s)

[] adopt _____ Letter of Intent


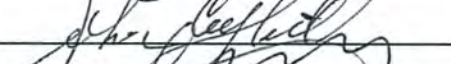
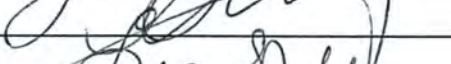
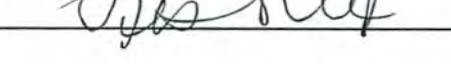

[] further referral to _____ Committee

Dept Abbr.	
ADM	LWF
CED	LAW
COR	LEG
CRT	MVA
EED	DNR
DEC	DPS
DFG	REV
GOV	DOT
DHS	UA

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S)				
Dept.	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN #
LEG			✓	1

[] APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	Wielechowski	✓			
	Coghill	✓			
	Huggins	✓			
	McGuire	✓			
CHAIR: 	Stoltz	✓			

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/27/15

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES REINBOLD, Kawasaki, Lynn, LeDoux, Keller, Saddler, Josephson, Tilton, Johnson, Hughes, Wilson, Olson, Chenault, Pruitt, Millett, Neuman, Thompson, Gattis, Stutes, Herron

SENATORS Stoltze, Wielechowski, Costello, McGuire, Kelly, MacKinnon, Hoffman, Giessel, Bishop, Micciche, Egan, Stevens, Coghill

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the United States Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the**
 2 **current level of its combat-capable structure in the state and not to reduce personnel at**
 3 **Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.**

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

5 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of the Army is preparing for structural
 6 reductions to its forces in 2020, and it would be in the best interest of Alaska and the nation
 7 for the United States Department of the Army to determine that no personnel reductions be
 8 made for Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage;
 9 and

10 **WHEREAS** Headquarters, United States Department of the Army, is continuing to
 11 reduce the maximum number of active duty personnel from a wartime peak of 570,000
 12 personnel to 450,000 personnel by the end of the United States government's fiscal year 2017;
 13 and

14 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of the Army must reduce and
 15 reorganize the structure of its combat-capable forces to achieve the fiscal reductions

1 required by P.L. 112-25 (Budget Control Act of 2011), as amended; and

2 **WHEREAS** the reduction and reorganization must be consistent with the national
3 military strategy issued by the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and

4 **WHEREAS** General Order Number 2012-01 of Headquarters, United States
5 Department of the Army, directs the United States Army to conduct listening sessions at 30
6 military installations across the United States that are being evaluated for potential personnel
7 reductions; and

8 **WHEREAS** the primary purpose of the listening sessions is to provide members of
9 affected communities with an opportunity to comment on the reductions under consideration
10 in their community; and

11 **WHEREAS** Anchorage and its vicinity could lose up to 5,300 military and civilian
12 positions at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson; and

13 **WHEREAS** Fort Wainwright could lose up to 5,800 military and civilian positions;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS** the nation's primary concern must always be national defense and the
16 security of the United States, including Alaska; and

17 **WHEREAS** the geographic location of Alaska, including its access to polar air routes,
18 provides a vital strategic advantage for current and future United States Department of the
19 Army missions, force mobilizations, offensive operations, and defensive operations; and

20 **WHEREAS** Alaska's strategic global position has been recognized since World War
21 II as providing a prime location to defend the United States against the potential aggression of
22 hostile nations, including Russia and North Korea; and

23 **WHEREAS**, from bases in the state, United States Army combat forces can rapidly
24 deploy by air or sea to areas in and around the Pacific, Asia, and Europe and can cross the
25 Arctic to Europe faster than by flying from the East Coast of the United States; and

26 **WHEREAS** the six major military installations, more than 23,000 active duty service
27 members, and more than 37,000 family members of active duty service members in Alaska
28 make the military presence in the state economically vital to Alaska; and

29 **WHEREAS** the military programs of the University of Alaska Anchorage support
30 military personnel and their families throughout the area served by the University of Alaska
31 Anchorage, including by providing extension centers on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

1 that offer educational opportunities to about 1,000 military and civilian students with classes
2 designed so that students can fit coursework into their busy schedules using conventional
3 educational environments and electronic and other distance delivery systems; and

4 **WHEREAS** the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex consists of 63,000 square miles
5 of training areas and provides a training and readiness complex that is unique in the world;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS** Red Flag Alaska, a series of Pacific Air Forces commander-directed field
8 training exercises, hosts allied nations from around the world in the unrestricted air space
9 needed for the exercises that is found in Alaska, but that is quickly becoming a premium in
10 the United States; and

11 **WHEREAS** the proximity of United States Air Force and Alaska Air National Guard
12 units to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson provides joint training
13 opportunities for the United States Army units stationed in Alaska and outside Alaska; and

14 **WHEREAS** United States Army and United States Air Force facilities are located
15 together at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, providing a unique and efficient deployment
16 base for the two military forces; and

17 **WHEREAS** Alaska has demonstrated its strong commitment to the United States
18 Army by investing more than \$88,000,000 in transportation infrastructure to provide the
19 United States Army with access throughout the year to training areas for maneuvers in the
20 Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex; and

21 **WHEREAS** Alaska is the only state in the nation with direct access to the Arctic, and
22 the United States Army soldiers in Alaska are experts in extreme cold weather operations; and

23 **WHEREAS** Alaska is home to the United States Army's Cold Regions Test Center
24 and has been the site of the United States Army's Arctic and cold weather testing since before
25 World War II; and

26 **WHEREAS** Alaska serves as a site activation command for the United States Missile
27 Defense Agency; and

28 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Defense recognizes Alaska as an
29 important strategic location and has recently increased and upgraded its missile defense
30 capability in the state;

31 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges the United States

1 Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-capable
2 structure in Alaska; and be it

3 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the United
4 States Department of the Army not to reduce personnel at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and
5 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage.

6 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
7 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
8 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Ashton B. Carter, United States Secretary of
9 Defense; the Honorable John M. McHugh, United States Secretary of the Army; General
10 Martin E. Dempsey, Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski
11 and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
12 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

SCS for CS for HJR13 (STA)

RETAIN ARMY FORCES IN ALASKA

- Mr. President, I move and ask unanimous consent that the Senate State Affairs Committee Substitute for CS for HJR 13 be adopted in lieu of the original bill.

Mr. President, the Senate State Affairs Committee considered CS for HJR13 (MLV) and made the following changes:

- References to preparing for a structural realignment of forces at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage were replaced with references to structural or personnel reductions.

Mr. President, these changes were made to clarify that the legislature does not intend to oppose structural realignments *which may add personnel and assets* to Alaska military installations. The focus of this resolution is to oppose the reduction of personnel at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage.

- *There was no impact to the zero fiscal note from the Legislative Affairs Agency*

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Bill Stoltze, Chair
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182
Phone (907) 465-4958
Fax (907) 465- 4928



Official Business

Members:
Sen. John Coghill, Vice Chair
Sen. Charlie Huggins
Sen. Lesil McGuire
Sen. Bill Wielechowski

February 24, 2014
Bill Packet Information

HJR 13 RETAIN ARMY FORCES IN ALASKA

- Sponsor Statement
- CS(MLV) Explanation of Changes
- HJR 13 (MLV) ver E
- Fiscal Note LEG-SESS 2-9-2015

February 26, 2014
Bill Packet Information

SB 9 ELECTION PAMPHLETS

- Sponsor Statement
- SB 9 ver A
- Fiscal Note OOG-DOE 2-23-15
- Supporting Documents
 - Repealed Language
 - Elections Income from Political Ads

Alaska State Legislature



Representative Lora Reinbold

House District 14

CS Sponsor Statement for House Joint Resolution 13

“Urging the United States Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-capable structure in the state and not to take structural realignment actions with regard to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.”

House Joint Resolution 13 supports maintaining current Alaska Army personnel levels at Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

The Department of the Army, pursuant to P.L 112-25 (Budget Control Act of 2011), has been tasked with reducing costs and reducing active duty personnel. Thirty military installations across the United States are currently being evaluated, including Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Nationally, Army active duty personnel may be reduced from 570,000 to 450,000. In Alaska, Fort Wainwright may lose up to 5,800 military and civilian positions. Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson may lose up to 5,300 military and civilian positions.

HJR 13 recognizes the national interest in reducing costs, however, it also recognizes how truly unique the military installations in Alaska are. Army Major General William “Billy” Mitchell (who is credited for being “the father of the Air Force”) famously said:

I believe that in the future, whoever holds Alaska will hold the world. I think it is the most important strategic place in the world.

That quote rang true during Major General Mitchell’s life (December 29, 1879 – February 19, 1936), and rings true today.

Alaska, using northern routes, connects three continents. Army personnel located in the state can get to many places around the globe, quickly. In those instances, the military can “make things happen.” Or, importantly, “prevent other things from happening.” Having a presence in Alaska, especially at places like Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson can shape events.

Please join Representative Reinbold in supporting HJR 13

Alaska State Legislature



Representative Lora Reinbold
House District 14

(MLV) CSHJR 13 Explanation of Changes

“Urging the United States Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-capable structure in the state and not to take structural realignment actions with regard to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf- Richardson.”

Resolution Title: On page 1 line 1 of the title, inserted the words “and strengthen,” following the word “maintain.”

Page 2: Line 3 changed the word “chairman” to “chair.”

Page 2: Line 8 strike the word “an,” and line 9 changing the word “community,” to the word “communities.”

Page 2: Line 11 inserted the words “and its vicinity,” after the word “Anchorage.”

Page 2: Line 18 inserted the words “United States,” before the word “Department.”

Page 2: Line 24 inserted the word “Asia,” following the word “Pacific.”

Page 2: Line 28 struck the word “important,” and replaced it with the word “vital.”

Page 3: Line 14 struck the word “the,” before the words “United States,” and inserted the word “facilities,” following the words “Air Force.”

Page 4: Line 1 inserted the words “and strengthen,” after the word “maintain.”

Page 4: Added the President of the United States, Vice President, and the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dempsey to the list of those who will receive copies of this resolution.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2015 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHJR 13(MLV)
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(H) Publish Date:	2/11/2015

Identifier: HJR13-LEG-SESS-02-09-15
 Title: RETAIN ARMY FORCES IN ALASKA
 Sponsor: REINBOLD
 Requester: Rep Herron

Department: Alaska Legislature
 Appropriation: Legislative Operating Budget
 Allocation: Session Expenses
 OMB Component Number: 782

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2016 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2016 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2016	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
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

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2015) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2016) cost: 0.0 *(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?

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:

Initial Version

Prepared By:	Jessica Geary, Finance Manager	Phone:	(907)465-6626
Division:	Legislative Affairs Agency	Date:	02/09/2015 09:18 AM
Approved By:	Pamela Varni, Executive Director	Date:	02/09/15
Agency:	Legislative Affairs Agency		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This legislation has zero fiscal impact on the Legislative Affairs Agency.

Daniel George

Subject: HJR 13 - Notes

On Feb 24, 2015, at 9:23 AM, "Susie Gorski" <sgorski@cer.org> wrote:

I just wanted to take a moment this morning to call in and commend you for taking the initiative to create HJR 13 opposing the drawdown of our two Army brigades in Alaska – at JBER and Wainwright.

We are a community over 35,000 – with over 2000 active duty military here in CER.... About 21 percent of our residents are veterans... that's the highest in the state; and Alaska has the highest percent of veterans in the country. This is a great place for active duty and retired..... we offer many benefits to our military from tax relief to the permanent fund dividend....

The proposed draw down of just the 4/25 is equivalent to the loss of ½ of the population of Chugiak-Eagle River – about 15,000 gone at the drop of the hat...That does not even count Wainwright.

We know that each and every one of the 30 communities that are targeted to lose brigades are worried...they will all be impacted economically. So why us.... when looking at the competition, it is clear that the Army must also consider that we have the best geopolitical arguments for keeping both brigades here in Alaska

- Our training areas are second to none and
- Our strategic location is the very best from the standpoint of reaching critical hotspots in the world in the shortest amount of time.... whether it be the opening of the arctic sea ice, resource and energy development, or Russia's military buildup in the arctic, or activity in the Pacific.... we are the first responders able to deploy both brigades jointly

On behalf of our Chamber, thank you for being leaders on this issue.

Susan Gorski
Executive Director
Chugiak-Eagle River
Chamber of Commerce
12001 Business Blvd
Eagle River, AK 99577

907-694-4702 work
907-317-5562 mobile

“Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is a progress, working together is a success!”

AMENDMENT #1

OFFERED IN THE SENATE
TO: CSHJR 13(MLV)

BY SENATOR COGHILL

- 1 Page 1, lines 2 - 3:
- 2 Delete "**take structural realignment actions with regard to**"
- 3 Insert "**reduce personnel at**"
- 4
- 5 Page 1, lines 6 - 7:
- 6 Delete "a structural realignment of"
- 7 Insert "structural reductions to"
- 8
- 9 Page 1, lines 8 - 9:
- 10 Delete "structural realignment actions not be taken with regard to both"
- 11 Insert "no personnel reductions be made for"
- 12
- 13 Page 4, line 5:
- 14 Delete "take structural realignment actions with regard to both"
- 15 Insert "reduce personnel at"

29-LS0486P
Bannister
2/23/15

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES REINBOLD, Kawasaki, Lynn, LeDoux, Keller, Saddler, Josephson, Tilton, Johnson, Hughes, Wilson, Olson, Chenault, Pruitt, Millett, Neuman

SENATORS Stoltze, Wielechowski, Costello, McGuire, Kelly

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the United States Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the**
2 **current level of its combat-capable structure in the state and not to reduce personnel at**
3 **Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.**

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

5 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of the Army is preparing for structural
6 reductions to its forces in 2020, and it would be in the best interest of Alaska and the nation
7 for the United States Department of the Army to determine that no personnel reductions be
8 made for Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS** Headquarters, United States Department of the Army, is continuing to
11 reduce the maximum number of active duty personnel from a wartime peak of 570,000
12 personnel to 450,000 personnel by the end of the United States government's fiscal year 2017;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of the Army must reduce and
15 reorganize the structure of its combat-capable forces to achieve the fiscal reductions
16 required by P.L. 112-25 (Budget Control Act of 2011), as amended; and

1 **WHEREAS** the reduction and reorganization must be consistent with the national
2 military strategy issued by the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and

3 **WHEREAS** General Order Number 2012-01 of Headquarters, United States
4 Department of the Army, directs the United States Army to conduct listening sessions at 30
5 military installations across the United States that are being evaluated for potential personnel
6 reductions; and

7 **WHEREAS** the primary purpose of the listening sessions is to provide members of
8 affected communities with an opportunity to comment on the reductions under consideration
9 in their community; and

10 **WHEREAS** Anchorage and its vicinity could lose up to 5,300 military and civilian
11 positions at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson; and

12 **WHEREAS** Fort Wainwright could lose up to 5,800 military and civilian positions;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS** the nation's primary concern must always be national defense and the
15 security of the United States, including Alaska; and

16 **WHEREAS** the geographic location of Alaska, including its access to polar air routes,
17 provides a vital strategic advantage for current and future United States Department of the
18 Army missions, force mobilizations, offensive operations, and defensive operations; and

19 **WHEREAS** Alaska's strategic global position has been recognized since World War
20 II as providing a prime location to defend the United States against the potential aggression of
21 hostile nations, including Russia and North Korea; and

22 **WHEREAS**, from bases in the state, United States Army combat forces can rapidly
23 deploy by air or sea to areas in and around the Pacific, Asia, and Europe and can cross the
24 Arctic to Europe faster than by flying from the East Coast of the United States; and

25 **WHEREAS** the six major military installations, more than 23,000 active duty service
26 members, and more than 37,000 family members of active duty service members in Alaska
27 make the military presence in the state economically vital to Alaska; and

28 **WHEREAS** the military programs of the University of Alaska Anchorage support
29 military personnel and their families throughout the area served by the University of Alaska
30 Anchorage, including by providing extension centers on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson
31 that offer educational opportunities to about 1,000 military and civilian students with classes

1 designed so that students can fit coursework into their busy schedules using conventional
2 educational environments and electronic and other distance delivery systems; and

3 **WHEREAS** the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex consists of 63,000 square miles
4 of training areas and provides a training and readiness complex that is unique in the world;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS** Red Flag Alaska, a series of Pacific Air Forces commander-directed field
7 training exercises, hosts allied nations from around the world in the unrestricted air space
8 needed for the exercises that is found in Alaska, but that is quickly becoming a premium in
9 the United States; and

10 **WHEREAS** the proximity of United States Air Force and Alaska Air National Guard
11 units to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson provides joint training
12 opportunities for the United States Army units stationed in Alaska and outside Alaska; and

13 **WHEREAS** United States Army and United States Air Force facilities are located
14 together at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, providing a unique and efficient deployment
15 base for the two military forces; and

16 **WHEREAS** Alaska has demonstrated its strong commitment to the United States
17 Army by investing more than \$88,000,000 in transportation infrastructure to provide the
18 United States Army with access throughout the year to training areas for maneuvers in the
19 Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex; and

20 **WHEREAS** Alaska is the only state in the nation with direct access to the Arctic, and
21 the United States Army soldiers in Alaska are experts in extreme cold weather operations; and

22 **WHEREAS** Alaska is home to the United States Army's Cold Regions Test Center
23 and has been the site of the United States Army's Arctic and cold weather testing since before
24 World War II; and

25 **WHEREAS** Alaska serves as a site activation command for the United States Missile
26 Defense Agency; and

27 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Defense recognizes Alaska as an
28 important strategic location and has recently increased and upgraded its missile defense
29 capability in the state;

30 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges the United States
31 Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-capable

1 structure in Alaska; and be it

2 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the United
3 States Department of the Army not to reduce personnel at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and
4 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage.

5 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
6 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
7 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Ashton B. Carter, United States Secretary of
8 Defense; the Honorable John M. McHugh, United States Secretary of the Army; General
9 Martin E. Dempsey, Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski
10 and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
11 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Introduced:
Referred:

A RESOLUTION

1 **Suspending Rules 24(c), 35, 41(b), and 42(e), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State**
2 **Legislature, concerning House Joint Resolution No. 13, urging the United States**
3 **Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-**
4 **capable structure in the state and not to take structural realignment actions with regard**
5 **to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.**

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

7 That under Rules 49(a) and 54, Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, the
8 provisions of Rules 24(c), 35, 41(b), and 42(e), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State
9 Legislature, regarding changes to the title of a bill, are suspended in consideration of House
10 Joint Resolution No. 13, urging the United States Department of the Army to maintain and
11 strengthen the current level of its combat-capable structure in the state and not to take
12 structural realignment actions with regard to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-
13 Richardson.

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13(STA)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/27/15

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES REINBOLD, Kawasaki, Lynn, LeDoux, Keller, Saddler, Josephson, Tilton, Johnson, Hughes, Wilson, Olson, Chenault, Pruitt, Millett, Neuman, Thompson, Gattis, Stutes, Herron

SENATORS Stoltze, Wielechowski, Costello, McGuire, Kelly, MacKinnon, Hoffman, Giessel, Bishop, Micciche, Egan, Stevens, Coghil

A RESOLUTION

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 11 reduce the maximum number of active duty personnel from a wartime peak of 570,000
 12 personnel to 450,000 personnel by the end of the United States government's fiscal year 2017;
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1 required by P.L. 112-25 (Budget Control Act of 2011), as amended; and

2 **WHEREAS** the reduction and reorganization must be consistent with the national
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8 **WHEREAS** the primary purpose of the listening sessions is to provide members of
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17 **WHEREAS** the geographic location of Alaska, including its access to polar air routes,
18 provides a vital strategic advantage for current and future United States Department of the
19 Army missions, force mobilizations, offensive operations, and defensive operations; and

20 **WHEREAS** Alaska's strategic global position has been recognized since World War
21 II as providing a prime location to defend the United States against the potential aggression of
22 hostile nations, including Russia and North Korea; and

23 **WHEREAS**, from bases in the state, United States Army combat forces can rapidly
24 deploy by air or sea to areas in and around the Pacific, Asia, and Europe and can cross the
25 Arctic to Europe faster than by flying from the East Coast of the United States; and

26 **WHEREAS** the six major military installations, more than 23,000 active duty service
27 members, and more than 37,000 family members of active duty service members in Alaska
28 make the military presence in the state economically vital to Alaska; and

29 **WHEREAS** the military programs of the University of Alaska Anchorage support
30 military personnel and their families throughout the area served by the University of Alaska
31 Anchorage, including by providing extension centers on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

1 that offer educational opportunities to about 1,000 military and civilian students with classes
2 designed so that students can fit coursework into their busy schedules using conventional
3 educational environments and electronic and other distance delivery systems; and

4 **WHEREAS** the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex consists of 63,000 square miles
5 of training areas and provides a training and readiness complex that is unique in the world;
6 and

7 **WHEREAS** Red Flag Alaska, a series of Pacific Air Forces commander-directed field
8 training exercises, hosts allied nations from around the world in the unrestricted air space
9 needed for the exercises that is found in Alaska, but that is quickly becoming a premium in
10 the United States; and

11 **WHEREAS** the proximity of United States Air Force and Alaska Air National Guard
12 units to Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson provides joint training
13 opportunities for the United States Army units stationed in Alaska and outside Alaska; and

14 **WHEREAS** United States Army and United States Air Force facilities are located
15 together at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, providing a unique and efficient deployment
16 base for the two military forces; and

17 **WHEREAS** Alaska has demonstrated its strong commitment to the United States
18 Army by investing more than \$88,000,000 in transportation infrastructure to provide the
19 United States Army with access throughout the year to training areas for maneuvers in the
20 Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex; and

21 **WHEREAS** Alaska is the only state in the nation with direct access to the Arctic, and
22 the United States Army soldiers in Alaska are experts in extreme cold weather operations; and

23 **WHEREAS** Alaska is home to the United States Army's Cold Regions Test Center
24 and has been the site of the United States Army's Arctic and cold weather testing since before
25 World War II; and

26 **WHEREAS** Alaska serves as a site activation command for the United States Missile
27 Defense Agency; and

28 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Defense recognizes Alaska as an
29 important strategic location and has recently increased and upgraded its missile defense
30 capability in the state;

31 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature strongly urges the United States

1 Department of the Army to maintain and strengthen the current level of its combat-capable
2 structure in Alaska; and be it

3 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the United
4 States Department of the Army not to reduce personnel at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks and
5 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage.

6 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of
7 the United States; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice-President of the United States and
8 President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Ashton B. Carter, United States Secretary of
9 Defense; the Honorable John M. McHugh, United States Secretary of the Army; General
10 Martin E. Dempsey, Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski
11 and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
12 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.