

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1981

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

SJR 11am

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Relating to actions of the Bolivian government.

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

WHEREAS the military regime headed by General Luis Garcia Meza has interrupted Bolivia's progress toward democracy and constitutional government by overthrowing a civilian interim government on July 17, 1980; and

WHEREAS the Bolivian regime has allegedly engaged in mass arrests, torture, repression of civil rights, executions, censorship, religious harassment, and violence inflicted on the people of Bolivia; and

WHEREAS the continued suppression of civil and human rights is generating support for communism as an alternative form of government; and

WHEREAS the Bolivian regime is reported by the United States State Department to have significant connections with drug traffickers; and

WHEREAS Amnesty International has estimated that at least 1,000 arrests have been made in Bolivia since July 17, 1980, and has requested that the Bolivian government compile and release a list of persons imprisoned or killed; and

WHEREAS the United Nations International Labor Organization has asked the Bolivian regime for permission to investigate alleged violations of trade union rights; and

WHEREAS the Bolivian regime has reportedly detained and harassed journalists from other countries, including the United States; and

WHEREAS the United States State Department has reported that the Bolivian regime has threatened by implication United States citizens in Bolivia; and

WHEREAS the United States State Department has taken steps against the regime in Bolivia, including terminating military assistance, curtailing economic assistance, and reducing the official United States presence in La Paz;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports United States Representative Richard L. Ottinger's resolution urging that the United States not reestablish at a normal level an official presence in Bolivia and not furnish any military or economic assistance which has been terminated since the Bolivian regime assumed power on July 17, 1980, unless the President determines that civil rights have been restored to the people of Bolivia, United States citizens who have been detained for political reasons have been released and the Bolivian regime has promised that no reprisals will be taken against them, the democratic process has been restored in Bolivia, and the reported involvement of the Bolivian regime in international drug conspiracies has been properly assessed.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; the Honorable Richard L. Ottinger, U.S. Representative; and the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.