

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1987

Source

Legislative
Resolve No.

HJR 31

22



Relating to a Siberian crossing and cultural exchange.

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

WHEREAS President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, recognizing the desires of the citizens of their countries, signed an agreement in 1986 encouraging people-to-people exchanges between the United States and the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS the Alaska Performing Artists for Peace brought this agreement to life by visiting the Soviet Union last year; and

WHEREAS the people of Alaska and the Soviet Union have a shared history; and

WHEREAS some of the inhabitants of the Alaska and Soviet Union coastal communities on the Bering Strait have family and cultural ties; and

WHEREAS the people of St. Lawrence Island in Alaska have extended an invitation to the people in Siberia to participate in an Alaska whaling festival this summer; and

WHEREAS other Alaska communities are planning activities to welcome the people from Siberia and would like to include the Siberian visitors in the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics in August; and

WHEREAS, if Siberian residents are allowed to visit Alaska, the visit will be the first Siberian crossing for the residents in almost 40 years; and

WHEREAS the proposed exchange would promote international understanding and world peace;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature supports a Siberian crossing and cultural exchange in Alaska for Alaskan and Siberian residents this summer; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully encourages the President of the United States to support and assist this proposed Siberian crossing and exchange; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the members of the state's Congressional delegation to support this proposed Siberian crossing and cultural exchange.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Ronald Reagan, President of the United States; and to 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.