

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1990

Source

SCS CSHJR 63(SA)

Legislative
Resolve No.

81



Relating to persons immigrating to and requesting asylum in the United States.

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

WHEREAS the Eastern Bloc countries of Hungary, Poland, East Germany, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Romania, and certain other countries are moving away from communism towards democracy; and

WHEREAS some individuals from these countries have requested political asylum and freedom in the United States; and

WHEREAS the changes in the Eastern Bloc countries are being considered by the Immigration and Naturalization Service when it evaluates the political asylum applications of persons from the Eastern Bloc countries; and

WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature recognizes that the governments of the Eastern Bloc countries may be subject to change during a period of political unrest; and

WHEREAS the United States is a strong supporter of human rights and was founded on the principle of the individual's right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS Alaska has benefited from the immigrants who have already come to the state; and

WHEREAS Alaska can provide a refuge for persons who seek political asylum in the United States;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature

(1) declares that it welcomes immigrants from foreign countries and is willing to serve as a refuge for persons who are

seeking political asylum in the United States; and

(2) urges the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service

(A) to halt the process of deportation from the United States of persons from Eastern Bloc countries who have requested political asylum and are on United States soil;

(B) not to use the recent political changes in the Eastern Bloc countries

(i) to deny political asylum to persons from those countries, even if an application for asylum was submitted before the changes began; or

(ii) to revoke the political asylum already granted to persons from those countries;

(C) to grant amnesty or political asylum on humanitarian grounds to each person who is on United States soil, who has submitted an application for political asylum in the United States, and who would have been eligible for asylum except for the recent political changes in the Eastern Bloc countries, unless the person could be considered a threat to national security or is otherwise determined to be undesirable under current United States immigration law.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Gene McNary, Commissioner-Designate of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service; 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.