

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

1992

Source
CSSSHJR 66(MLV) am

Legislative
Resolve No.
80



Urging the Congress to amend the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 to allow savings in military spending to be spent for domestic needs as well as for budget deficit reduction.

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

WHEREAS a strong national defense remains a high priority, although the cost of maintaining a strong national defense has been reduced significantly; and

WHEREAS the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 enacted by the Congress established three separate categories for federal spending; and

WHEREAS these categories of defense, domestic, and international spending have spending limits set within each category and transfer of funds between categories is prohibited; and

WHEREAS any savings in military spending can be directed only toward budget deficit reduction and may not be reprogrammed for domestic spending; and

WHEREAS Alaska, like the other 49 states, faces pressing social and economic needs ranging from health care and day care to transportation and public safety; and

WHEREAS state and local government responsibility for providing human services and paying for the renewal of infrastructure has increased over the past decade while federal

aid to states and communities has dropped from 29.4 percent to 16 percent of their budgets; and

WHEREAS the number of Americans living below the poverty line has increased to 33,000,000 according to 1990 census figures and many families even above the poverty line are facing very difficult economic circumstances that affect the health and education of their children and the well-being and productivity of their adult members; and

WHEREAS the fiscal constraints faced across the country retard efforts to preserve our families, develop jobs, clean up our environment, and repair and expand our infrastructure; and

WHEREAS President Bush proposed a 10-year reduction of 22 percent in the military budget even before the changes in the USSR; and

WHEREAS the potential domestic effect of even a small savings in military spending is truly significant as evidenced by the fact that the \$865,000,000 cost of just one B-2 bomber exceeds the cost of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) in 49 out of the 50 states in the nation; and

WHEREAS a "peace dividend" would make a real difference in whether our families can be strong and healthy and whether our nation will be economically competitive, environmentally responsible, and socially compassionate;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Congress and the President, for the sake of present families, future generations of children, and the continued greatness of our nation, to reach a new budget agreement that would allow savings in military spending to be used to meet the nation's enormous domestic social and economic needs as well as for budget deficit reduction.

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 Robert C. Byrd, President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; 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.