

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

1992

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Legislative
Resolve No.
87



Supporting the continuation of at least the current level of all U.S. military facilities throughout Alaska, including Fort Richardson Army Post.

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

WHEREAS changing world conditions and relationships have lead to pressure on the Congress and the President to reduce defense spending; and

WHEREAS reductions in defense spending would probably result in some cuts in personnel stationed at bases around the country because a very significant portion of defense spending is related to personnel costs; and

WHEREAS the U.S. military services have been reviewing the need for their current levels of military presence in Alaska, including the army post at Fort Richardson; and

WHEREAS, although military reductions have occurred in Europe and the Far East, Alaska's strategic importance should continue to grow in order to defend the interests of the United States in the Arctic and the Pacific Rim regions; and

WHEREAS in 1990, the military services in Alaska stood as the third largest industry in the state, accounting for 16 percent of the state's labor force and 13 percent of the state's payroll with expenditures on behalf of the military services in Alaska having an estimated \$2,700,000,000 effect on Alaska's economy; and

WHEREAS Fort Richardson Army Post represents one of the largest concentrations of military personnel in Alaska; and

WHEREAS all of the military personnel and their families contribute significantly to the state's economy and their presence is vital to the social fabric of the communities in which they live;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the President, the Congress, and the U.S. military services to maintain at least the current level of all military facilities throughout Alaska, including the U.S. Army complement at Fort Richardson, which might be subject to closure.

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 Dick Cheney, Secretary of Defense; 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; Michael P. W. Stone, Secretary of the Army; H. Lawrence Garrett III, Secretary of the Navy; Donald B. Rice, Secretary of the Air Force; General Carl E. Mundy, Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps; Admiral William J. Kime, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; General Carl E. Vuono, Army Chief of Staff; Mr. Jim Courter, Chair, Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission; General Thomas McNerney, Commander, Alaska Command; 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.