

STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE

1997

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Legislative
Resolve No.
15



Inviting the United States Department of Defense to select Alaska as the site to base and train military troops.

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

WHEREAS the nation's military strategy has shifted from its focus during the Cold War on deterrence and containment to support for the nation's new policies of global leadership in preventive diplomacy and promotion of democratic values; and

WHEREAS our armed forces, in the face of budget and force reductions and increasingly limited resources, are now called upon to conduct operations ranging from enforcing peace to preventing conflict and providing humanitarian assistance, while at all times remaining fully trained and prepared to accomplish their ultimate mission: to fight our nation's wars and win; and

WHEREAS the United States Department of Defense is now conducting its quadrennial review to evaluate the roles, missions, force structure, and base structure required to meet the challenges of the changing world situation; and

WHEREAS Alaska's military bases offer the armed forces an unmatched military value as a global power projection platform, as well as incomparable joint training areas that combine world class airspace and air-to-surface target ranges with state-of-the-art electronic arrays and capabilities and a wide range of terrain that is similar to the terrain of many

worldwide contingency operations areas; and

WHEREAS the State of Alaska and its citizens have always extended a warm welcome to members of the armed forces and their families and supported them with state and local programs and educational opportunities that recognize the contributions that members of the armed forces and their families have made to our nation as well as to our local communities;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature invites the United States Department of Defense to make use of Alaska's unique qualities and capabilities by selecting military areas of operation within the state as the site to base and train the full spectrum force our nation now requires to successfully deploy and conduct both joint and combined operations in environments around the world.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States; to the Honorable Al Gore, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable William S. Cohen, Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Togo D. West, Jr., Secretary of the Army; the Honorable John H. Dalton, Secretary of the Navy; the Honorable Sheila E. Widnall, Secretary of the Air Force; the Honorable Strom Thurmond, Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Floyd D. Spence, Chairman of the National Security Committee 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.