

**STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE**

2001

**Legislative
Resolve No.**

2

Source

CSSJR 5(RLS)



Relating to supporting the Great Alaska Shootout, the Top of the World Classic, and similar preseason basketball tournaments, and requesting that the National Collegiate Athletic Association reject legislative proposal No. 2000-106.

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

WHEREAS the State of Alaska and many of its institutions participate in interstate organizations and enter into many interstate agreements for the benefit of Alaska residents and the residents of other states; and

WHEREAS one of these interstate organizations is the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA); and

WHEREAS the University of Alaska Anchorage's Great Alaska Shootout basketball tournament and the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Top of the World Classic basketball tournament are two of the premier early or preseason basketball tournaments for NCAA member schools; and

WHEREAS the Great Alaska Shootout began in 1978 and, throughout the past 23 years, has been the host to more than 4,860 male and female student athletes who have been

exposed to the unique culture and experience of Alaska while interacting with the people of Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Top of the World Classic began in 1996 and provides students in Fairbanks with the opportunity to meet student athletes from schools participating in the classic and to interact with positive role models from different areas of the country and different backgrounds while also exposing the student athletes to the unique culture and experience of Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic provide an opportunity for Alaska's Division II intercollegiate athletic teams to be exposed to and compete against Division I schools while providing Alaska elementary and secondary school students the opportunity to personally witness topflight intercollegiate athletic competition; and

WHEREAS the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic have become a tradition in their respective communities, if not in all of Alaska; create a strong sense of community excitement and participation while providing a needed boost to the local economies; and are integral financial contributors to the athletic programs at the University of Alaska; and

WHEREAS the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic, along with tournaments such as the Black Coaches Association Classic, the Tip Off Classic, the Maui Invitational, Coaches Against Cancer, and other tournaments conducted in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and other locales, are classified as "certified" events under current NCAA regulations, which means that games played at these tournaments count as a single contest under the 28-basketball-game limit that each NCAA Division I member may schedule each year; and

WHEREAS, on October 25 - 26, 2000, the NCAA Division I Management Council adopted legislative proposal No. 2000-106, which would limit NCAA Division I member institutions to 29 basketball games and one exhibition contest or scrimmage each year and would eliminate the exemption for games played at basketball tournaments such as the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic, thereby eliminating an incentive for a NCAA member institution to participate in these tournaments; and

WHEREAS the NCAA Division I Management Council and Board of Directors are scheduled to consider legislative proposal No. 2000-106 in April 2001;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges that the NCAA Division I Management Council and Board of Directors recognize the positive contribution that tournaments such as the Great Alaska Shootout and the Top of the World Classic make to the lives and experiences of the student athletes who participate in the tournaments and to the communities that sponsor the tournaments; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the NCAA Division I Management Council and Board of Directors to reject legislative proposal No. 2000-106; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges all NCAA member institutions that have participated in the Great Alaska Shootout or the Top of the World Classic, their coaches, and their students to contact their conference officials and the members of the NCAA Division I Management Council and Board of Directors to urge the rejection of legislative proposal No. 2000-106.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to all NCAA Division I Board of Directors; all members of the NCAA Division I Management Council; Cedric Dempsey, President of the NCAA; Dave Schnase, National Office, NCAA; David Berst, Chief of Staff for Division I, NCAA; Mark Hamilton, President of the University of Alaska; 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.