

**STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE**

2001

Source
SJR 9

**Legislative
Resolve No.**
7



Relating to the development and deployment of the National Missile Defense System.

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

WHEREAS the proliferation by foreign nations and organizations of weapons of mass destruction and of the technology for long-range missiles is a growing danger to all 50 states; and

WHEREAS this threat was demonstrated on August 31, 1998, when North Korea flight-tested a long-range missile over Japan, and the missile splashed down in the Pacific Ocean, clearly showing the danger ballistic missiles pose to Alaska and other states on the west coast of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in response to this growing threat, the United States has initiated the National Missile Defense Program to protect all 50 states from foreign ballistic missile attack; and

WHEREAS Alaska is strategically located because of its close proximity to east Asia and Europe, and is the only state from which the entire United States can be defended; and

WHEREAS the developers of the National Missile Defense System have identified several sites in Alaska as preferred alternatives for the location of major components of the system, including the radar site and intercept vehicles; and

WHEREAS construction contracts for the National Missile Defense System were not approved by President Clinton in 2000, delaying the construction schedule; and

WHEREAS barges carrying material to begin construction on a Shemya Island radar site could still embark this year; and

WHEREAS President George W. Bush and members of his cabinet have indicated their strong support for the development of a National Missile Defense System;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature calls upon the President of the United States to direct the United States Department of Defense to develop and deploy the National Missile Defense System as soon as technologically possible.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Donald Rumsfeld, United States Secretary of Defense; the Honorable John Warner, Chair, U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee; the Honorable Bob Stump, Chair, U.S. House Armed Services Committee; 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.