

Presented by: Mayor Botelho
Introduced: 06/13/2005
Drafted by: J.W. Hartle

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2315

A Resolution Expressing Assembly Opposition to the Department of Defense Recommendation for the Alaska Military Base Realignment and Closure Plan.

WHEREAS, based upon the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) selection criteria, Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks is scheduled for realignment, cutting approximately 2,870 military personnel; Kulis Air Force Base in Anchorage will be closed; personnel reductions of more than 1,500 military and civilian positions are expected at Elmendorf Air Force Base, with modest personnel reductions at Fort Richardson, both in Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska recommendations are part of a reconfiguring of the nation's military bases that the Department of Defense estimates would save about \$48.8 billion over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska would see the loss of more than 4,800 military and civilian jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly is concerned about the overall impact this realignment would have on the State of Alaska, including the tremendous impact to local schools, retailers, and employers; and

WHEREAS, Governor Frank Murkowski said in a statement, "The BRAC process is a difficult one to turn around and so we should be careful not to hold out false hope, but we still should do everything in our power to make our case"; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ted Stevens stated, "Alaska has half the coastline in the United States and we have the perimeter that faces Asia and there will be fewer aircraft in Korea, it doesn't make sense to me and I intend to go to the Commission and present that case"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

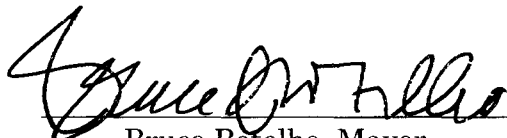
Section 1. That the City and Borough of Juneau objects to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) proposed by the Department of Defense and requests that the Commission reverse its recommendation to reduce deployment in Alaska.

Section 2. The BRAC Commission is encouraged to emphasize to President George W. Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld that deployment at Eielson AFB, Kulis AFB, and Elmendorf AFB is vital to the overall security of our nation, and that the Department of Defense should seek to expand rather than diminish strategic and unique military base positions in Alaska.

Section 3. Upon adoption copies of this resolution shall be distributed to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission; Senator Ted Stevens; Senator Lisa Murkowski; Congressman Don Young; Governor Frank Murkowski; the Alaska State Legislature; City of Fairbanks; Fairbanks North Star Borough; and Municipality of Anchorage.

Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 13th day of June, 2005.


Bruce Botelho, Mayor

Attest:


Elizabeth J. McEwen, Deputy Clerk