

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2023

Source

HJR 4

Legislative
Resolve No.

4



Honoring the Alaska-Korea relationship; and celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, the 70th anniversary of the Korean Armistice Agreement, and the 120th anniversary of the first Korean immigration to the United States.

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

WHEREAS 2023 marks 70 years since the signing of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, signed on October 1, 1953, and entered into force November 17, 1954; and

WHEREAS 2023 marks 70 years since the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement, ending the hostilities of the Korean War; and

WHEREAS 2023 marks 120 years since the first immigration of Koreans to the United States, when the SS Gaelic brought the first Korean immigrants to Hawaii; and

WHEREAS the United States and the Republic of Korea have longstanding ties through trade, military cooperation, tourism, immigration, and many other areas; and

WHEREAS the United States and the Republic of Korea have been developing a steadfast partnership, anchored in shared values and interests, tackling the most pressing

regional and global challenges, thereby evolving into a global comprehensive strategic alliance; and

WHEREAS the United States and the Republic of Korea are major trade partners, with about \$169,000,000,000 of trade annually between the two nations in raw materials, including crude oil and natural gas, and in finished goods, such as automobiles and semiconductors; and

WHEREAS this state and the Republic of Korea engage in major trade, with about \$2,300,000,000 of trade annually between the state and the Republic of Korea, including minerals, fish, and computer products; and

WHEREAS some large Korean companies operate in the state, including major air cargo carriers Korean Air and Asiana Airlines, which operate at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport; and

WHEREAS, each year, over 2,000,000 Korean travelers visit the United States and 1,000,000 travelers from the United States visit the Republic of Korea, contributing substantially to the economies of each country; and

WHEREAS 7,000 Koreans and Korean Americans live in the state, contributing to the rich history and culture of the state; and

WHEREAS the cities of Anchorage, Alaska, and Incheon, Republic of Korea, have been sister cities since 1986, acknowledging the ties between the state and the Republic of Korea and encouraging cultural and economic exchange; and

WHEREAS, since 2008, the state has celebrated Korea-Alaska Friendship Day on June 20, acknowledging the longstanding ties, economic and cultural exchange, and friendship between the state and the Republic of Korea;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the strength and longevity of the relationship between the state and the Republic of Korea as premier partners in the Pacific region; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature acknowledges the important anniversaries marking 70 years since the signing of the Mutual Defense Treaty and the Korean Armistice Agreement, and 120 years since the first immigration of Koreans to the United States; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature eagerly looks forward to

the continuation of the close relationship between the United States and the Republic of Korea and anticipates a growing relationship for years to come.

COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States; the Honorable Yoon Suk Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea; the Honorable Han Duck-soo, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea; the Honorable Antony Blinken, United States Secretary of State; the Honorable Park Jin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea; the Honorable Lee Jong-Sup, Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Korea; the Honorable Lloyd Austin, United States Secretary of Defense; the Honourable Seo Eun-ji, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle, Washington; the Honorable Sang Seung-man, Consul and Head of the Consulate of the Republic of Korea in Anchorage, Alaska; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Mary Peltola, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.