

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES GATTO, Dahlstrom, Lynn, Johnson, Thomas, Buch, Ramras, Gruenberg

Introduced: 3/25/09

Referred: House Special Committee on Military and Veterans' Affairs, State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Designating 2009 as the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United**
2 **States Army.**

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

4 **WHEREAS** the Secretary of the Army has designated 2009 as the Year of the United
5 States Army Noncommissioned Officer to honor more than 200 years of service by the
6 noncommissioned officers to the Army and the American people; and

7 **WHEREAS** the United States Army's professional Noncommissioned Officer Corps
8 has a proud history and has distinguished itself throughout the world as the backbone of the
9 Army by leading the way with two tasks in mind: obeying the orders of the Corps' superior
10 officers to accomplish the mission and looking out for the welfare of the Corps' soldiers; and

11 **WHEREAS** noncommissioned officers in the Corps occupy a position of respect and
12 leadership and have performed fundamental tasks, such as serving as small unit leaders,
13 technical experts, trainers, and perhaps most importantly, guardians of the Army's standards;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS** every officer fresh from basic training remembers the officer's first
16 noncommissioned officer leader, because it is these great leaders that help finish the

1 rudimentary training with which every officer comes into the service; and

2 **WHEREAS** the United States Army depends on the knowledge and timeless qualities
3 of leadership and courage that those dedicated men and women possess, assigning them to
4 lead the charge from the front on today's battlefields in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation
5 Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and the Philippines, and in other locations throughout the
6 world; and

7 **WHEREAS** noncommissioned officers and their families have made daily sacrifices
8 and exemplified courage and a deep sense of patriotism in their commitment to providing
9 continual and invaluable service to our state and to this great nation and have demonstrated
10 their dedication and willingness to sacrifice on behalf of their fellow Americans; and

11 **WHEREAS** the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United States Army has
12 faced danger, endured hardships, and made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our nation's
13 freedoms; and

14 **WHEREAS** the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United States Army is
15 unrivaled by any other army in the world, envied by our allies, and, feared by our enemies,
16 and, throughout the Army's history, the Noncommissioned Officer Corps has been pivotal, but
17 never more so than today, with our full spectrum of operations;

18 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature designates 2009 as the Year of
19 the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United States Army; and be it

20 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the people of
21 the United States to recognize 2009 as the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the
22 United States Army with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

23 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Pete Geren, United States
24 Secretary of the Army; General George W. Casey, Jr., Chief of Staff of the United States
25 Army; the Honorable Sarah Palin, Governor of Alaska; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski
26 and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S.
27 Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.