

**STATE OF ALASKA  
THE LEGISLATURE**

**2009**

**Source**  
CSHJR 31(MLV)

**Legislative  
Resolve No.**  
10



Urging the United States Congress to pass the Honor the Written Intent of our Soldier Heroes Act.

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

**WHEREAS** federal law under 10 U.S.C. 1482(c) prohibits a service member from designating a person other than a surviving spouse, blood relative, or adoptive relative to direct the disposal of a service member's remains; and

**WHEREAS**, before deploying on a combat operation, a service member is asked to designate a person who will be responsible for arranging the service member's memorial services and overseeing the service member's burial arrangements; and

**WHEREAS** service members fill out DD Form 93, on which they express their last wishes with the expectation that their last wishes regarding memorial services and burial arrangements will be honored; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2003, more than 4,000 service members who have served honorably have given their lives in combat; and

**WHEREAS** a service member deploying on a combat operation in defense of our country should be allowed to designate any person the service member wishes to direct the

disposition of the service member's remains; and

**WHEREAS** H.R. 1633, the Honor the Written Intent of our Soldier Heroes Act, also referred to as the Honor the WISH Act, amends 10 U.S.C. 1482(c) to allow a service member to designate any person the service member wishes to direct the disposition of the service member's remains, regardless of the designated person's relationship to the service member;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States Congress to pass H.R. 1633, the Honor the Written Intent of our Soldier Heroes Act.

**COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Pete Geren, United States Secretary of the Army; the Honorable Donald C. Winter, United States Secretary of the Navy; the Honorable Michael B. Donley, United States Secretary of the Air Force; the Honorable Sarah Palin, Governor of Alaska; and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Mark Begich, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.