

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBER Gutierrez
Assembly Member Honeman
Prepared by: Assembly Counsel
For reading: May 25, 2010

See AR 2010-168(S)

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 2010-168**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE
PREFERRED CURRENT LOCATION FOR MILITARY ARTILLERY PRACTICE AND
MAKING FINDINGS AGAINST THE CREATION OF A NEW LIVE FIRE ARTILLERY
RANGE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO EXISTING NEIGHBORHOODS OF EAST
ANCHORAGE.**

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage recognizes the value of the military presence in Alaska and the contribution of military personnel stationed here while serving our country; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage recognizes the need for military personnel to train year-around and under varying conditions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army has proposed three possible options for live fire artillery training at Fort Richardson: Option 1 - Continued live fire artillery training on the Eagle River flats during the winter months only—summer training conducted out-of-town (current practice); Option 2 – Year-around live fire artillery training on the Eagle River flats; and Option 3 – A new live fire artillery range to be located just east of the Muldoon and Scenic Park neighborhoods of East Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly recognizes the added expense of conducting training in Interior Alaska, and the preference to keep soldiers closer to home for training between deployments, allowing them to spend more time in the community with friends and family during their time at home; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly finds the construction of a new artillery range on the outskirts of the East Anchorage neighborhoods would have serious negative impacts on the residents of those neighborhoods, including excessive noise and increased danger of wildfire; and

WHEREAS, the construction of a completely new live fire artillery range on the outskirts of East Anchorage would involve considerable time, effort, and expense, and is disruptive to existing community neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, officials from Fort Richardson have stated that Option #2 – Year-around live fire artillery training at the Eagle River Flats range will meet the need for expanded training available locally;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

1 1. Option #3 – A new artillery firing range in East Anchorage is not supported by the
2 Anchorage Assembly. The Anchorage Assembly finds that Option #3 would cause
3 severe detrimental impacts to the community and residents of nearby
4 neighborhoods, and require unnecessary public expense and inconvenience.
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6 2. Option #2 – Year-around artillery practice at the current location of the Eagle River
7 Flats facility is the option supported by the Anchorage Assembly. The Assembly
8 finds that Option #2 would have the least negative impact in terms of the Anchorage
9 community and residents of nearby neighborhoods, while honoring the preference
10 to keep year-around training local for military personnel before and between
11 deployment.
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anchorage Assembly recommends rejection of
14 Option #3 (creation of a new artillery firing range in East Anchorage) by the United States
15 Army in favor of the other two options identified to the Municipality of Anchorage.

16 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____day of
17 _____, 2010.
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22 _____
23 Chair

24 ATTEST:
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28 _____
29 Municipal Clerk
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