

Resolution No. 2010-1

**Aviation Advisory Board**

**Resolution calling for action to improve trade, communication and transportation to Russian Far East**

**Whereas:** Direct air travel between Alaska and the Russian Far East (Chukotka) is beneficial for commerce and economic development, cultural exchange, support of the native populations, historical perspective, and access to Bering National Park (common to both regions).

**Whereas:** The ability to conduct direct flights between Alaska and the Russian Far East as an alternative to routes currently used would benefit travelers, mail and other cargo. This has the potential to reduce transportation costs, travel time, conserve resources, increase trade and reduce our collective carbon footprint.

**Whereas:** General Aviation trips between Alaska and cities in the Russian Far East have led to the development of a Visual Flight Rules Route and Border Crossing Procedures, allowing direct air travel for recreational, tourism, fishing and hunting, humanitarian purposes and commerce.

**Whereas:** Commercial charter flights from Nome to Anadyr have supported mineral development, construction projects and tourism between Alaska and the Russian Far East.

**Whereas:** Fee increases over the past few years in the Russian Far East impose economic barriers that have led to cancellation of flights by private non-commercial aviation groups.


**Whereas:** Aviation fuel used in the Russia is imported from as far away as Finland and Poland, resulting in very high costs for aviation gasoline in the region.

**Whereas:** Advances in aviation technology such as weather cameras and ADS-B could improve the air traffic infrastructure for both the Russian Far East and Alaska.

**Therefore be it resolved:** That the Governor of the State of Alaska should pursue actions to promote sustainable direct air travel opportunities for commercial and general aviation between Alaska and the Russian Far East.

**Therefore be it further resolved:** The State of Alaska should request the assistance of the United States-Russia Bilateral Commission to help address high fee structures and onerous procedures that threaten the expansion of direct air routes between Alaska and the Russian Far East.

**Therefore be it further resolved:** That the Governor of the State of Alaska should request the assistance of the United States Federal Aviation Administration to pursue international agreements that will reduce travel and trade barriers in both the United States and Russia and promote travel and trade between Alaska and the Russian Far East.

Signed:   
Lee Ryan, Chair, Governor's Aviation Advisory Board

Date: October 21, 2010

Distribution:

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Federal Aviation Administration Alaska Regional Administrator Robert Lewis