

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES STOLTZE, Neuman

Introduced: 4/1/09

Referred: Judiciary

A RESOLUTION

- 1 **Relating to the case of the United States v. Wade and to the decision of the Attorney**
2 **General of the United States with respect to that case.**

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

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1999, Joshua Wade was arrested three times for minor crimes; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 2000, Joshua Wade was charged with felony robbery, rape, and
6 burglary and was eventually convicted of a weapons charge and served roughly five months
7 in jail; and

8 **WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2000, Della Brown was found murdered in Anchorage;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, on September 30, 2000, Joshua Wade was charged with her murder and
11 jailed until trial; and

12 **WHEREAS**, in early 2003, Mr. Wade went on trial for the murder of Ms. Brown,
13 robbery, and other charges; and

14 **WHEREAS**, on April 16, 2003, Mr. Wade was acquitted by a jury on all charges
15 except tampering with evidence; and

16 **WHEREAS**, on September 4, 2003, Mr. Wade was sentenced to five years for

1 evidence tampering plus 18 months for violating parole on an earlier weapons conviction; and

2 **WHEREAS**, on December 18, 2004, Mr. Wade was released from prison; and

3 **WHEREAS**, on August 3, 2007, Mindy Schloss disappeared from her home in
4 Anchorage; and

5 **WHEREAS** Mr. Wade used Ms. Schloss's ATM card numerous times during the
6 week following her disappearance; and

7 **WHEREAS** Ms. Schloss was found murdered a month later; and

8 **WHEREAS** a federal grand jury charged Mr. Wade with Ms. Schloss' murder in
9 April 2008; and

10 **WHEREAS**, in the indictment, the United States Attorney for the District of Alaska
11 asserted that Mr. Wade committed the offense in an especially heinous, cruel, and depraved
12 manner; and

13 **WHEREAS** the United States Department of Justice has created a capital case review
14 procedure to assist the United States Attorney General in making decisions on whether to seek
15 the death penalty; and

16 **WHEREAS** the capital case review procedure requires each United States Attorney to
17 submit for review all cases involving a pending charge of an offense for which the death
18 penalty is a legally authorized sanction, regardless of whether or not that United States
19 Attorney recommends seeking the death penalty; and

20 **WHEREAS**, during the capital case review, a review committee makes a
21 recommendation to the United States Attorney General as to whether the death penalty should
22 be sought in a case; and

23 **WHEREAS** the United States Attorney General makes a final decision as to whether
24 a capital sentence should be sought in a case; and

25 **WHEREAS** there is no death penalty under Alaska law;

26 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States
27 Attorney General to consider all the evidence and, if justified by the evidence, carefully
28 consider the death penalty as a sentencing option for Joshua Wade.

29 **A COPY** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney
30 General of the United States.