

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 04/01/96
Drafted by: J.R.C.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1809

**A Resolution Supporting Legislation Increasing the Excise
Tax Rate for Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Products.**

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse and alcoholism are major community problems long acknowledged by the Assembly to cost the community in dollars and lives, and

WHEREAS, tobacco use is a major cause of cancer, heart disease, and other diseases resulting in great suffering and expense, and

WHEREAS, it is sound public policy to impose an extra measure of these costs on those who use the substances which create the problems, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Legislature is presently considering several bills which would increase the state excise tax on alcoholic beverages and tobacco products, thereby raising revenue and reducing consumption, especially among young people, and

WHEREAS, the Assembly views this legislation as a necessary and important step in making our community a healthier place to live, and

WHEREAS, the Social Services Advisory Board at its meeting of November 2, 1995, and the Assembly Human Resources Committee at its meeting on March 21, 1996, recommended that the Assembly support increasing the excise tax rate for alcoholic beverages and tobacco products;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

1. That the Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau supports increasing to appropriate levels and thereafter adjusting for inflation the excise tax rates on alcoholic beverages and tobacco products. The tax rate appropriate for each substance should strike the best balance of two goals:


- (a) deterring adult and youth addiction to the substance, and

(b) funding state and local programs impacted by the substance.

2. The Clerk shall distribute copies of this resolution to the Alaska Legislative Delegation.

3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 1st day of April, 1996.



Mayor

Attest:



Clerk

1809MR

This resolution expresses the Assembly support for state legislation that would increase taxes on alcohol and tobacco. The Social Services Advisory Board supports this legislation because the increased taxation would raise revenue and discourage use.

The Human Resources Committee at its meeting of March 21 reviewed this resolution and recommended that it be adopted by the Assembly.

JRC/szl

Assembly Meeting: 04/01/96