

Presented by: Mayor and Assembly
Introduced: 03/16/87
Drafted by: S.J.F.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 1229

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO MAINTAIN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTHEAST REGIONAL LABORATORY LOCATED IN JUNEAU.

WHEREAS, the Southeast Regional Laboratory (SERL) may be closed due to budget cuts within the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, and

WHEREAS, SERL is located within the City and Borough of Juneau and serves the Juneau community as well as the entire Southeast Alaska region, and

WHEREAS, SERL performs many important disease screening tests, cultures, and exams, including but not limited to tests for tuberculosis, botulism testing, rubella serologys, gonorrhoea cultures, and water monitoring for coliforms, and

WHEREAS, the closure of SERL will seriously compromise health care in Juneau and Southeast Alaska because certain specimens needed for diagnostic and therapeutic reasons would be adversely impacted by the additional delay in travel to Anchorage for laboratory work, and

WHEREAS, SERL provides disease screening tests to low income persons at no cost to patients needing this service, and

WHEREAS, in the event of SERL's closure, low income patients may be unable to secure laboratory testing services at no cost and it is anticipated that low income patients may therefore fail to be screened for diseases due to inability to afford other available testing services, and

WHEREAS, the closure of SERL may have a permanent detrimental impact on health care in Juneau and Southeast Alaska because, upon closure of the local laboratory, with its sophisticated equipment, reinstatement of the laboratory would be very costly and difficult, and

WHEREAS, Bartlett Memorial Hospital (BMH) in Juneau leases space to SERL, and the bacteriology department of BMH subleases laboratory space from SERL, and

WHEREAS, SERL provides services, supplies, and equipment to BMH for use in BMH's bacteriology lab, and

WHEREAS, in the event of SERL's closure, BMH will lose approximately \$150,000 annually in lease payments;

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

That the Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau urges Governor Cowper and the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature to maintain funding for the Southeast Regional Laboratory (SERL) located in Juneau.

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

Adopted this 16th day of March, 1987.



Mayor

Attest:



Clerk