

Presented by: Finance Committee  
Introduced: 6/7/99  
Drafted by: J.R. Corso

## **RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

**Serial No. 1993**

### **A Resolution Urging the State of Alaska to Redress Inequities in the Funding of Municipal Law Enforcement.**

WHEREAS, the basic function of government is to provide for the physical safety of its citizens, and

WHEREAS, crime and the fear of crime threaten the safety of thousands of Alaskans, in cities, towns, and villages throughout the state, and

WHEREAS, governments at every level have a duty to respond to the fear and the reality of crime, and

WHEREAS, at the municipal level in Alaska, only the City and Borough of Juneau and the Municipality of Anchorage have adequately funded municipal police, municipal prosecutors, municipal public defenders, and municipal jails as necessary to investigate, litigate, and punish drunk driving, domestic violence and other crimes that invade the peace and quiet of our communities, and

WHEREAS, state criminal justice services and criminal justice funding are provided to municipalities, if at all, in a haphazard manner without a coherent policy and without regard to local efforts, and

WHEREAS, in Juneau and Anchorage, the state has not delivered on its commitment to protect families, choosing instead to rely on local prosecution of misdemeanor drunk driving and domestic violence charges, and

WHEREAS, the criminal justice efforts of Juneau and Anchorage are of substantial and continuing value to the State of Alaska and its ability to resolve the budget crisis now facing all Alaskans, and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has given no sign that it values the public safety efforts of Juneau and Anchorage, no sign that it expects other cities to make similar efforts and no sign that its municipal assistance and revenue sharing policies support criminal justice programs, and

WHEREAS, the policy vacuum funded by the State of Alaska encourages some cities to avoid their public safety obligations in favor of whatever state misdemeanor enforcement is available and casts other cities as fools who would spend their money on local police when they might be granted at least a few state troopers, and

WHEREAS, the inequities of criminal justice funding in Alaska have a corrosive and demoralizing effect on relations among cities and with the State of Alaska

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


**Section 1.** The City and Borough of Juneau urges the State of Alaska to provide services, calculate revenue sharing, or both, in a manner rationally related to the criminal justice needs and efforts of Alaska's municipalities.

**Section 2. Effective Date.** This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1999.

  
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Dennis Egan, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Marian J. Miller, Clerk