Presented by: Mayor Botelho Introduced: 03/08/2004 Drafted by: J.W. Hartle

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

## Serial No. 2255

A Resolution Acknowledging the Mexican Consular Identification Card as an Acceptable Form of Identification When Presented by an Individual Seeking City and Borough Services.

WHEREAS, there are Mexican nationals residing in Juneau who do not possess a form of identification issued by a United States federal or state agency; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants are fearful of reporting crimes to the police because they do not possess proper identification; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants lack access to certain public services because they do not possess proper identification; and

WHEREAS, 47 cities across the nation, as well as the Mexican Consulate or El Consulado General de Mexico, issue identification cards to Mexican nationals who have a birth certificate, a proper form of Mexican identification, and who have been residing in the United States for at least six months; and

WHEREAS, the Mexican Consular identification cards, or Matricula Consular de Alta Seguridad (hereinafter "Matricula Consular"), are state-of-the-art and contain various security safeguards designed to prevent falsification; and

WHEREAS, the Matricula Consular is recognized by more then 150 banking institutions (including Wells Fargo in Juneau), 37 counties, 134 cities, and 946 police and sheriff's departments; and

WHEREAS, if Mexican citizens possess a Matricula Consular, they are able to establish their identities to local peace officers, and acceptance of that identification would facilitate their interactions with law enforcement agencies, saving time and lowering costs; and

WHEREAS, if a Mexican citizen possesses a Matricula Consular, he or she will be more likely to report crimes and cooperate with law enforcement officers if it is an accepted form of identification; and WHEREAS, if a Mexican citizen who possesses a Matricula Consular is able to establish his or her identity to city personnel, he or she will have better access to City and Borough public services, such as library cards and utilities.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska:

Section 1. The City and Borough of Juneau will accept the Mexican Consular identification card, known as the "Matricula Consular," as an official form of identification.

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

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.

Kuee

Bruce Botelho, Mayor

Attest: Aren

Vote: Unanimous