

Presented by: The Manager
Introduced: 07/11/2016
Drafted by: M. A. Cosgrove

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2763

A Resolution Urging the Alaska Legislature to Pass a Balanced, Sustainable, and Predictable State Fiscal Plan to Help Ensure Long Term Fiscal Stability for the Citizens of the State of Alaska.

WHEREAS, Alaska's reliance on oil revenues to fund state programs and services has been significantly compromised leaving the State of Alaska with a \$4.0 billion budget deficit for FY17; and

WHEREAS, the cash budget reserves currently being used by the State to cover expenses will deplete the budget reserve in FY18 without further action; and

WHEREAS, major business leaders in the State have warned they would be unlikely to continue making significant commercial investments in Alaska if the Legislature fails to address the fiscal deficit in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Governor Walker has introduced a complete fiscal plan to provide for a sustainable and predictable balanced budget, using the strengths of our existing financial assets, a balanced blend of spending reductions, and additional new revenues; and

WHEREAS, following adjournment of the 2016 regular session and fourth special session of the 29th Legislature, the Legislature did not pass a comprehensive fiscal plan; and

WHEREAS, the new fiscal reality requires the Legislature to demonstrate strong leadership and bold action; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau is concerned about the State's fiscal challenge and recognizes that all levels of government must contribute to the fiscal solution; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's municipalities and economy need fiscal certainty from the Legislature to allow for budget planning and the development of sustainable local budgets that provide for public services; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature did not pass a comprehensive fiscal plan and instead relied heavily on limited state savings to balance the State's FY17 operating budget; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, in response to the Legislative FY17 budget action made significant vetoes to the State budget, which have over a \$4.5 million negative financial impact to Juneau.

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

Section 1. The Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau calls upon the Alaska State Legislature to take affirmative and immediate action during the fifth special session of the 29th Legislature to enact a package of initiatives that will provide for a sustainable and predictable balanced state budget for the foreseeable future.

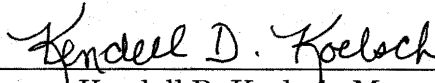
Section 2. The Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau appreciates the difficult work of the Administration to put forth one possible comprehensive fiscal solution; and while the City and Borough of Juneau may not support every aspect of this plan, does recognize it as the appropriate foundation for legislative deliberation.

Section 3. The Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau requests that if a full fiscal plan cannot be achieved this year, then sufficient new revenue must be raised to fund the state's commitment to school debt reimbursement which the Governor vetoed due to a lack of funding.

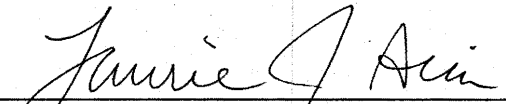
Section 4. The Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau urges that the Alaska State Legislature engage in meaningful discussions of all fiscal options.

Section 5. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately after its adoption.

Adopted this 11th day of July, 2016.


Kendell D. Koelsch, Mayor

Attest:


Laurie J. Sica, Municipal Clerk