

Presented by: The Manager  
Presented: 09/13/2021  
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

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

**Serial No. 2964**

**A Resolution Authorizing the City and Borough of Juneau to Participate in Alaska Opioid Settlements.**

WHEREAS, opioids have devastated individuals and significantly harmed communities throughout Alaska, and litigation settlement funds need the flexibility to abate opioid impacts, current and future; and

WHEREAS, opioid impacts have resulted in increased criminal justice law enforcement demands, increased healthcare demands - including behavioral healthcare - increased emergency medical services demands, increased educational supportive services demands, and increased emergency and transitional housing services demands; and

WHEREAS, municipalities in Alaska are uniquely suited to help utilize or distribute opioid settlement funds because of the array of services provided by municipalities and by local providers; and

WHEREAS, opioid settlement funds should be available to reimburse existing and create new opioid related municipal services - like services for people experiencing homelessness, police, fire/EMS, behavioral health, and other healthcare - and grants to local providers who provide opioid support services; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities in Alaska also recognize the Alaska Legislature has a constitutional duty to promote and protect public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities in Alaska also recognize the Alaska Legislature has a constitutional duty to maintain a public school system open to all children, including children that have been significantly impacted by opioids; and

WHEREAS, upon balancing the opioid impacts across the State of Alaska and the desire to help resolve the current opioid litigation, it is in the interest of all to maximize the amount of settlement funding that will come to the state; and

WHEREAS, the municipalities in Alaska encourage the State of Alaska to create an opioid settlement distribution that provides stable short-term and long-term funding to abate the opioid impacts in Alaska's municipalities.


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

**Section 1. Authority to Participate in Alaska Opioid Settlements.** The City Manager or City Attorney is authorized to agree to the terms of the Alaska Opioid Settlements for the purposes of foregoing future litigation and using settlement funds for opioid abatement.

**Section 2. Opioid Settlement Structure.** The Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau urges the State of Alaska to create a settlement structure in collaboration with Alaska municipalities to address local needs, to support their residents and service providers, and to protect the settlement funds from legislative action beyond the terms agreed to by parties of the settlement.

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This resolution shall be effective immediately after its adoption.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.



Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:



Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk