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ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE  
RESOLUTION #2008-01

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ALASKA HEALTH CARE STRATEGIES PLANNING COUNCIL IN THEIR SEARCH TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL ALASKANS

WHEREAS, Governor Palin has issued Administrative Order #232 establishing the Alaska Health Care Strategies Planning Council; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the above Order is to “recognize the need to develop a statewide plan to identify short-term and long-term strategies to effectively address the issues of access to, and cost and quality of, health care for all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, the Council will convene after the 2007 Legislative Session and will prepare a Health Care Action Plan for the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, 114,000 Alaskans (17% of the population) were counted as uninsured in 2006; and

WHEREAS, more than half of those uninsured are employed; and

WHEREAS, lack of continuous coverage is especially a concern for the children of Alaska’s communities; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League has identified health care for all Alaskans as a top priority for FY08; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League shares the same issues of interest with the Council:
  • Access to health care
  • Quality of health care
  • Cost of health care/efficiencies/who pays
  • Prevention/public health
  • Provider recruitment/retention
  • Care for very young
  • Care for elders

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League supports the Alaska Health Care Strategies Planning Council in their search to provide health care for all Alaskans.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League believes that the Planning Council should consider the federally funded Community Health Councils to determine if they fit into the long-term strategy for health care.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed:  
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest:  
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CREATION OF A STATE-FUNDED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM TO INCLUDE ROAD, MARINE AND AIR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska’s Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF) is updating the State’s Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to ensure the plan meets the State’s needs through the year 2030 and to ensure it complies with SAFETE-LU; and

WHEREAS, federal funds are the primary source for construction and repair of Alaska’s highway transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, our state highway, marine and air transportation infrastructure is in a financial crisis; and

WHEREAS, the amount of federal funds available to states has been flat and there are projections that the Highway Trust Fund will not allow for projects in 2009 unless federal taxes are increased; and

WHEREAS, if these problems are not solved, this crisis will result in major service reductions across the state; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is one of only two states that does not have a state funded capital transportation program; and

WHEREAS, Alaska does not have a designated reserve fund for maintenance of Alaska transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, new areas within and between communities cannot be opened up without transportation modes (surface, marine and air), but currently there seems to be no system through which to develop these new transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, the purchasing power of federal funds has declined due to inflation and ever increasing federal requirements and the high cost of construction; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska’s transportation infrastructure is aging faster than repairs can be made at present funding levels. Alaska is experiencing declining road conditions such as increased congestion; potholes and ruts are not being repaired; dust has become a health and safety hazard; and many of the vessels in the Alaska Marine Highway System are approaching the end of their useful lives; and

WHEREAS, climate change in Alaska is resulting in damage to roads due to permafrost thawing and increased flooding; and

WHEREAS, poor road conditions and increased congestion lead to higher accident rates; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway program funds are not sufficient to meet needs and expectation of Alaska’s citizens. With the projected funds received, the proposed State LRTP #1 priority will be to focus on the National Highway System, leaving insufficient funding for Alaska Highway Systems; local roads; and the Alaska Marine Highway System; and
WHEREAS, a focus on the National Highway System will put a disadvantage on rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS, using state funds will result in less expensive projects being constructed more quickly.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the State of Alaska to develop a state-funded transportation program of $300 million annually or more that will result in a long-term sustainable state-funded transportation program to address the Alaska Highway System; unmet needs of local roads; the Alaska Marine Highway System; and air transportation infrastructure.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the new transportation program should include provisions for a Community Block Grant program to address local transportation needs.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ________________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ________________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
A RESOLUTION URGING THE STATE TO COMMIT 6% OF ALL NATURAL RESOURCE REVENUES TO ALASKA’S COMMUNITIES FOR SERVICES TO ALASKA’S PEOPLE, WITH NO CAP

WHEREAS, the State has failed to share the revenues generated by the natural resources that belong to all of Alaska’s residents; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of Revenue Sharing has had a significant negative effect on all of Alaska’s communities; and

WHEREAS, the lack of Revenue Sharing has either caused communities to raise taxes or to cut essential services; and

WHEREAS, Revenue Sharing was once used as an incentive to encourage communities to become organized municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the restoration of Revenue Sharing would provide communities with funding to reduce local taxes, build infrastructure, provide for increased quality of life, and in some cases, provide for the survival of a community; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League has adopted a sustainable Revenue Sharing plan which is as follows:

- The State of Alaska is urged to adopt a sustainable revenue sharing program by annually appropriating 6% of natural resource revenues to municipalities with a base amount of $250,000 to all boroughs; $75,000 to all cities; and $25,000 to unincorporated communities; with the remainder to be allocated on a per capita basis and to NOT include a cap.
- This sharing of state revenues is consistent with the Owner State concept, intergovernmental cooperation and Constitutional provisions which provide for the natural resource ownership by all the people of the State of Alaska.
- Delivery of services at the local level is part of the annual state responsibility to citizen/owners for the betterment of the State of Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the State of Alaska to commit 6% of all natural resource revenue to Alaska’s communities, and avoid any cap on the 6% funding.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fish tax which has a municipal revenue sharing program is excluded from the above program.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ________________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ________________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-04

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO MATCH MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS TO THOSE OF MEDICARE

WHEREAS, Medicare reimbursements were historically based on a weighted average and on area rates and volume; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid is a state-run program and reimbursement procedures vary greatly; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Medicaid is administered by First Health, who reviews the information and makes reimbursement determinations using guidelines provided by the state; and

WHEREAS, until November, 2002, Alaska Medicaid reimbursed 100% of billed charges, at which time they changed their reimbursement policies without any input from providers; and

WHEREAS, patient care reports are “interpreted” by Medicaid nurses who have the ability to reduce the level of reimbursement regardless of the actual care rendered to the patient; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid also bases their reimbursements on Medicare, thus paying more for a patient that has Medicare and Medicaid than for a patient who has only Medicaid.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League encourages the State of Alaska to match Medicaid reimbursements to those of Medicare.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ____________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ____________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-05

A RESOLUTION RESTATING THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE’S POSITION TO ANY UNFUNDED MANDATES IMPOSED BY THE STATE AND REQUESTING THAT THE STATE HONOR THEIR COMMITMENTS TO REIMBURSE WHEN PROMISED (i.e., SEC. 29.45.030(g))

WHEREAS, the State has continued to support and pass legislation which mandates spending by Alaska’s municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the State has failed to reimburse for these mandates, thus putting all of the burden on Alaska’s taxpayers without the approval of each municipalities taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the Senior and Disabled Veterans’ Property Tax Exemption if the perfect example; and

WHEREAS, the State has abrogated its responsibilities in committing to reimbursement for this program, by failing to provide that reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, when the exemption was first put into law, the reimbursement by the State prohibited the burden being placed on younger families; and

WHEREAS, the State fails to reimburse, local municipalities must make up that difference from the rest of the taxpayers in their respective tax base; and

WHEREAS, we believe this sends a negative message to young working families that are much needed in our state; and

WHEREAS, the State is ignoring Sec. 20.45.030(g) which states, “The State shall reimburse a borough of city, as appropriate, for the real property tax revenues lost to it by the operation of (e) of this section.”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League wishes to restate their opposition to any unfunded mandates imposed by the State and requests that the State honor their commitment to reimburse when promised (Sec. 29.45.030(g)).

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ____________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ____________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-06

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNOR TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC AND COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY POLICY WITH IDENTIFIABLE GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION TO FOLLOW

WHEREAS, Alaska possesses vast amounts of renewable energy resources in the form of wind, geothermal, biomass, solar, tidal, wave and hydro power; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Legislature established the Alaska Energy Policy Task Force in 2003 to review and analyze the State’s current and long-term energy needs. The Task Force found that one of Alaska’s long-term energy needs is to “identify and evaluate long-term fuel resources: and recommends that the State “increase the proportion of renewables in long-term fuel sources;” and

WHEREAS, there is virtually no fuel costs associated with most renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy technology development promotes both industry and job creation; and

WHEREAS, ISER’s December 2005 Research Summary states, “Diesel is the main energy source in remote communities... and in 2004, diesel outside the rail belt cost about 5 times as much per unit of energy as natural gas;” and

WHEREAS, community facilities such as electrical plants, water & sewer services, and health clinics use diesel fuel, rural Alaskan residents are dependent on diesel fuel to generate and heat homes. Along with the high cost of energy, it impacts the economic conditions. The State of Alaska’s Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development’s report, “Current Community Conditions: Fuel Prices Across Alaska; June 1007 Update,” reported the average price of home heating fuel in western Alaska for 2007 at $4.73 per gallon, which is up from 2006; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous agencies dealing with energy assistance, both federal, state and international specialists; and

WHEREAS, the State and local governments deal on a daily basis with energy crisis issues, yet there is no long-term energy policy in place with like goals for which we can all strive.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal league encourages the Governor to develop a strategic and comprehensive energy policy with identifiable goals with implementation to follow.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League requests our Alaska Congressional Delegation, the Office of the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature to address the energy needs of Alaska families by:

• creating a Renewable Energy Fund to finance new utility scale renewable energy projects in Alaska. The fund shall be funded by general appropriations. The fund shall be distinct from funds administered by Alaska Energy Authority.
• within the fund, creating a program to conduct energy research, development, demonstration and applications.
• create a cabinet level position to coordinate efforts and centralize State and federal resources to solve the long-term energy crisis.
• within the fund, create a “revolving loan program” to assist individuals, organizations, businesses and government agencies in purchasing and installing alternative energy products.
• establishing a fund to remediate immediate energy crisis needs.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ________________________________

Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ________________________________

Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-07

A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZING THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE’S POSITION ON PERS/TRS WITH THE STATE BEARING 85% OF THE UNFUNDED PERS PAST SERVICE COST LIABILITY, AND ALL PERS EMPLOYERS PAYING 15%, WITH THE STATE PERMANENTLY PAYING ALL PAST SERVICE COSTS RELATED TO THE TRS

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League supports amending State Statutes to reflect an actual consolidated PERS plan; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League supports having one consolidated normal cost rate that all member employers pay; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League believes that 85% of the PERS unfunded obligation should go on the State’s books and be accounted for and paid by the State as a separate stand-alone obligation; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League believes that the other 15% of the unfunded obligation belongs to all PERS members; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League believes that in order to pay the 15% of the unfunded obligation, there should be a separate uniform consolidated past service cost rate that all member employers pay, that is a separate rate from a uniform, consolidated normal cost rate; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League believes that the State should permanently pay all past service costs related to the TRS system; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League supports seeking out and using available methods to reduce the future carrying costs of the unfunded obligations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League wishes to summarize and make clear that its PERS position is an 85/15% split of the unfunded liability and uniform consolidated normal cost rate and past service cost rates.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the State to permanently pay all past service costs related to the TRS system.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: _____________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ______________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-08

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LONG-TERM FUNDING WITH REGARDS TO FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED FROM THE ALASKA EDUCATION FUNDING TASK FORCE THAT EQUITABLY DEAL WITH ALASKA’S SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, education funding has been a serious problem in Alaska for many years; and

WHEREAS, the largest budget item in boroughs and/or First Class cities is education; and

WHEREAS, a task force has been created by the Governor to address the many issues involved in school funding; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League wishes to support the findings and recommendations that equitably serve all of Alaska’s school districts to include:
- Five-year phase-in of the ISER study
- Increased funding for intensive-needs students
- Increase in BSA
- Recalibration of pupil transportation funding
- Appropriation of school funding by the 60th day of session
- Examination of vocational technical demands
- Evaluation of local financial effort requirements

WHEREAS, the Alaska Education Funding Task Force has done an exemplary job of discussing, debating and forwarding recommendations to the Governor, as asked.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League supports long-term funding with regards to findings and recommendations forwarded from the Alaska Education Task Force that equitably deal with Alaska’s schools.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ____________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ____________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR THE ALASKA FIRE STANDARDS COUNCIL

WHEREAS, ensuring adequate fire protection in all communities will save lives, promote business growth, reduce lawsuits, reduce losses and result in lower insurance premiums; and

WHEREAS, urban and rural communities throughout Alaska need to have realistic and attainable training standards to protect life and property from fire and other disasters; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, the Legislature established, but did not fund, the Alaska Fire Standards Council to develop and regulate training for all fire departments (AS. 18.70.330); and

WHEREAS, statutory provisions were made for insurance companies to receive tax breaks for donations to the Alaska Fire Standards Council, yet the majority of companies have not responded; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Fire Chief’s Association feels that current national fire protection standards for fire protection and training are not financially attainable for most urban and rural fire departments and that the adoption of realistic Alaska standards would save lives and avoid a national trend toward litigation alleging inadequate training; and

WHEREAS, sustainable funding sources for the Alaska Fire Standards Council, assistance for local matching of Federal Fire Act grants and grants for local fire department training is needed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League supports HB211 and SB154 proposing a fire training fee of $3.00 on all fire insurance policies issued in Alaska. The revenue generated from this fee would be used to fund the Alaska Fire Standards Council, provide the local match necessary for the Federal Fire Act grants and provide training grants to local fire departments.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ____________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: _____________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-11

A RESOLUTION TO THE STATE OF ALASKA LEGISLATURE REQUESTING THE STATE OF ALASKA TO CONTINUE TO ACCEPT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COSTS OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE ALASKA LAND MOBILE RADIO SYSTEM AND RELIEVE LOCAL AGENCIES OF THOSE COSTS

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska and the Department of Defense have designed and built the Alaska Land Mobile Radio System; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Land Mobile Radio System was designed to provide communications between the Federal, State, and local governments in time of need; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League supports interoperability that provides quality communications and safety for all responders; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Land Mobile Radio System through recent statewide emergency response drills and day-to-day operations with current users has demonstrated and proven its effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, the DOD and the State of Alaska have fully vested into the use of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio System and usage of this system is in the best interest of all public safety agencies in Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the Alaska State Legislature to continue to accept full responsibility for the costs of operation and maintenance of the Alaska Land Mobile Radio System.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ____________________________________________________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ____________________________________________________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZING THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING OF PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILT) FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS, municipalities receive Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for federal lands and properties within their boundaries which are exempt from local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, property values have increased over the years and PILT funds have not increased accordingly; and

WHEREAS, federal property tax exemptions have increased over the years as HUD housing programs have purchased properties within municipalities; and

WHEREAS, it would help communities offset the cost of operations if PILT funding were fully funded to help ease the burden of state funding reductions to municipalities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League supports the full funding of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds from the federal government to municipalities.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ________________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ________________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
A RESOLUTION URGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO REAUTHORIZE AND INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE ALASKA REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program was established by the Alaska State Legislature in 1988 to create regional nonprofit public/private partnership organizations that work in unison with state efforts to stimulate economic development in each region; and

WHEREAS, in FY08, there are 11 recognized Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORS) in operation, including the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation; the Bering Straits Development Council; the Copper Valley Economic Development Council; the Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission; the Kenai Peninsula Borough Economic Development District; the Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council; the Mat-Su Regional Resource Conservation and Development Commission, Inc.; the Northwest Arctic Borough Economic Development Commission; the Prince William Sound Economic Development District; the Southeast Conference; and the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference; and

WHEREAS, in FY07, ARDOR organizations leveraged $620,000 in state funding to generate $4,476,914 in funding from other sources; a nearly 800% return on investment; and

WHEREAS, programs and initiatives mounted by ARDOR organizations have resulted in the increase and retention of jobs in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, many Alaskan municipalities do not have the capacity to conduct their own economic development programs, thereby depending on ARDORs for such efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the Alaska State Legislature to reauthorize the Alaska Regional Economic Assistance Program for an additional five years.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League supports increased funding by the Alaska State Legislature to ensure the success of our ARDORs.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: __________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: __________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
RESOLUTION #2008-15

A RESOLUTION URGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO RECOGNIZE AMENDMENTS TO AS. 39.50 SO THAT DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS ARE APPROPRIATE FOR LOCAL ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, as AS. 39.50, governing Alaska Public Offices Commission (APOC) has been amended to include several new rules retroactive to the proceeding calendar year, that apply to elected and appointed municipal officials; and

WHEREAS, municipalities and their respective elected and appointed officials did not have an opportunity to review and comment on the changes; and

WHEREAS, APOC has not yet published any guidelines or a manual for candidates to adhere to the new regulations; and

WHEREAS, new rules now require financial statements for public officials as they exit office and are retroactively instituted; and

WHEREAS, the general public and many candidates for public office have not been clearly informed or made aware of these changes; and

WHEREAS, it is well-known that local elected and appointed bodies, including planning boards and commissions are having difficulties finding candidates to serve and these new financial reporting requirements have compounded the situation; and

WHEREAS, new regulations state that completed APOC Public Official Financial Disclosure Statements shall be published on the internet and will include publication of total amounts of income naming each source and identification of the names of minor children.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the State Legislature to recognize amendments to AS. 39.50 so that disclosure requirements are appropriate for local elected and appointed officials.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE ENCOURAGING THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE AND THE STATE OF ALASKA TO OFFER SECOND GROWTH TIMBER HARVEST IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA

WHEREAS, many stands of second growth timber in Southeast Alaska are over 50 years of age and may be suitable for harvest; and

WHEREAS, the availability of first growth timber has been severely limited over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, without access to adequate timber, the few remaining mills in Southeast Alaska are in danger of closing; and

WHEREAS, many of the stands of second growth timber are accessible by existing roads and other means.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League encourages the State of Alaska and the United States Forest Service to offer timber sales of accessible second growth timber in Southeast Alaska to help provide timber in demand for Alaskan mills.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ________________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ________________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
RESOLUTION #2008-17

A RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR AND THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO CREATE A STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN COORDINATED WITH STATEWIDE ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION AND EDUCATION PLANS AND POLICIES

WHEREAS, state economic development plans and policies are essential to developing a strong, diverse and resilient economy; and

WHEREAS, ARDORs and other regional entities currently provide for coordination of regional economic development efforts and plans; and

WHEREAS, positioning Alaska to maximize its full economic potential in a changing global market is essential to sustainable and vibrant future growth; and

WHEREAS, transportation, energy and education provide the critical infrastructure necessary for a successful economy; and

WHEREAS, coordination of these critical areas with state-wide economic development strategy will result in maximizing public/private resources; and

WHEREAS, the League has resolved that the Alaska State Legislature create a state-funded transportation program that includes road, marine and air transportation; and

WHEREAS, the League has resolved that the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature develop a strategic and comprehensive energy policy; and

WHEREAS, a world-class K-12 and tertiary education system is vital to educating our children in-state and attracting students from out of state.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Municipal League urges the State to develop, in collaboration with ARDORs and other regional entities, a statewide economic development plan and policy that are coordinated and supported by the strategic statewide transportation, energy and education plans and policies.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Alaska Municipal League on the 9th day of November, 2007.

Signed: ____________________________
Tim Beck, President, Alaska Municipal League

Attest: ____________________________
Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, Alaska Municipal League