

DENALI BOROUGH

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DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA RESOLUTION NO. 22-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY IDENTIFYING DENALI BOROUGH LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE 32ND LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA BEGINNING JANUARY 18TH, 2022

WHEREAS, the funding level of the Community Assistance Program has declined by over fifty percent from a seven years ago; and

WHEREAS, the Denali Borough utilizes this funding to support providers of essential and direct public services including fire and ems response; and

WHEREAS, the Community Assistance Fund was not fully re-capitalized in the FY22 budget, further reducing future funding; and

WHEREAS, significant issues relating to the unfunded liability within the state managed PERS/TRS retirement programs were resolved through a 2008 agreement wherein all participants agreed to a 22% employer contribution cap for PERS and a 12.5% cap for TRS; and

WHEREAS, by extending the amortization period of the debt, the state burdened the municipalities with an additional \$2.5 billion in costs relating to the unfunded liability; and

WHEREAS, the waysides provided by DOT&PF through the Parks Highway corridor are closed a majority of the year. For the comfort and enjoyment of the travelling public and to encourage a longer visitor season, these essential services need to remain usable; and

WHEREAS, deterioration of the state's fiscal condition threatens the state's ability to meet its constitutional obligations to education, public safety, and public health; and

WHEREAS, as a political subdivision of the state, the Denali Borough needs a reliable and fiscally sound partner in shared responsibilities, such as major school maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed budget utilizes one-time federal American Rescue Act funds to balance revenues and expenses.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Denali Borough Assembly respectfully requests the Alaska State Legislature favorably consider:

- Recapitalizing the Community Assistance Fund to its full \$90 million to ensure future payments.
- Opposing any efforts to increase the non-state employer contributions to the PERS/TRS retirement systems.
- Opposing cost shifts to municipalities.
- Provide funding to DOT&PF to operate Alaska's waysides throughout the year.
- Supporting a balanced approach to resolving the state's projected budget deficits.
- Taking measurable steps toward a sustainable fiscal plan for a healthy Alaskan future.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Denali Borough Assembly this 12th day of January 2022.



MAYOR CLAY WALKER

ATTEST: 

AMBER RENSHAW, BOROUGH CLERK

VOTE: UNANIMOUS:

