



RESOLUTION 18-28

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REQUESTING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE PRIORITIZE FUNDING FOR THE CONTINUED SERVICE OF THE ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Marine Highway System (AMHS) is vitally important to the continued well-being of the communities of the Aleutians East Borough and other Alaska coastal communities; and,

WHEREAS, the seasonal twice a month ferry runs to southwest Alaska are a lifeline for travelers in our region including students, teachers, family relatives, fishermen, health workers and others; and

WHEREAS, the AMHS is a critical link for the transport of vehicles for residents in SW Alaska and for moving equipment for community projects; and

WHEREAS, the AMHS also brings in tourists to Alaska that spend money and enrich the local communities and overall State economy; and

WHEREAS, recent lapses in the Tustumena ferry schedule due to unplanned vessel drydock needs were devastating to individuals and community businesses that count on the ferry service; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of AMHS service is contingent on continued funding appropriations by the Alaska Legislature; and

WHEREAS, even more travelers could schedule and ride the AMHS with certainty if the AMHS was forward funded, resulting in increased revenue for the System.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly requests the Alaska Legislature to prioritize funding that will maintain the current level of AMHS service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly requests the Alaska Legislature consider investing in the AMHS to forward fund the System to result in an even more reliable system that will attract more ridership

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 8th day of February, 2018.

Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tina Anderson, Clerk