RESOLUTION 11-27

A RESOLUTION BY THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY OPPOSING THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST DISTRICTS IN THE 2011 ALASKA REDISTRICTING PLAN

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough is comprised of six (6) communities: Akutan, Cold Bay, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, King Cove and Sand Point, with a total Borough population of 3141, according to the 2010 Census of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Aleutians region is a special area encompassing communities of similar socio-economic integration and common cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Redistricting Board in accordance with Article 6 of the Alaska State Constitution, and the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, is charged with preparing a redistricting plan based on results from each decennial U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Redistricting Board held public meetings statewide including in Cold Bay and Fairbanks to accept public comment on draft 2011 redistricting plans; and

WHEREAS, the Aleutians East Borough has stated, through testimony and correspondence by Mayor Stanley Mack to the Alaska Redistricting Board, the importance of keeping Borough communities intact and within a common house district; and

WHEREAS, each plan released by the Alaska Redistricting Board prior to June 6th 2011, including the Draft plan of April 13th 2011, Board Option 1, Board Option 2 and the Board Concept Plan of June 6th 2011, as well as all plans submitted to the Board in 2011 by other groups, kept the Aleutians, Pribilofs and Alaska Peninsula together, including keeping the Aleutians East Borough intact; and

WHEREAS, the Final Redistricting Plan of 2011, adopted in draft form on June 7th and in final form on June 13th divides the communities of the Aleutians East Borough and the region into separate House Districts 36 & 37, and separate Senate Districts R & S; and

WHEREAS, in the Plan Akutan would be part of District 37-S with Unalaska, Adak, the Pribilofs and Bethel; and

WHEREAS, the Plan places the remainder of the AEB, not including Akutan, in District 36-R with the Lake and Peninsula Borough and also including communities as distant as Crooked Creek, Stony River, Tyonek and Beluga; and
WHEREAS, Article 6 Section 6 of the Alaska State Constitution states in part, “Each house district shall be formed of contiguous and compact territory containing as nearly as practicable a relatively integrated socio-economic area.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aleutians East Borough Assembly opposes the Alaska Redistricting Board Plan of 2011 as having ignored the public process, and as contrary to Article 6 Section 6 of the Alaska State Constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such opposition may be registered by the possible filing of an appropriate action in the Superior Court; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Redistricting Board, to the Governor of the State, to the President of the Alaska State Senate, to the Speaker of the House and to the Department of Justice.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 30th day of June, 2011.

Stanley Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tina Anderson, Clerk