



RESOLUTION 18-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER REDUCTIONS TO NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE JOBS AND PUBLIC SERVICES IN ALASKA AND RECOMMENDING THAT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRESERVE AND EXPAND SERVICES IN COLD BAY, ALASKA AND OTHER RURAL COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service (NWS) in Alaska provides vital information and services to Alaska residents, particularly those living and working in rural communities; and

WHEREAS, per a letter from the National Weather Service Employees Organization dated January 30, 2018, cuts to NWS jobs and services have already occurred, and further cuts in services and eventual closures are being proposed at all Rural Alaska Weather Service Offices (WSO), including the Aleutians East Borough community of Cold Bay, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the NWS has already made cuts affecting Cold Bay and other rural communities that include but are not limited to positions being left unfilled and communication methods being eliminated or altered; and

WHEREAS, NWS services in Cold Bay are extremely important and reductions in its services will have a negative impact on airline transportation (i.e. medevacs, regularly scheduled air carrier service and emergency landings), on the Bering Sea fishing fleet and the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough strongly recommends that the NWS services are preserved and expanded in Cold Bay, Alaska and other rural communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly expresses concern over the loss of NWS jobs and public services in Cold Bay, Alaska and other rural communities; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aleutians East Borough Assembly recommends that the NWS services are preserved and expanded in Cold Bay and other rural communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Aleutians East Borough on this 12th day of April, 2018.


Alvin D. Osterback, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tina Anderson, Clerk