

AKUTAN • COLD BAY • NELSON LAGOON

ALEUTIANS EAST



BOROUGH

FALSE PASS • KING COVE • SAND POINT

## RESOLUTION 09-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED IN HB-74 AND SB-4 TO RESTORE CERTAIN CHECKS AND BALANCES TO THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (ACMP) THAT FAVOR THE MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND COASTAL DISTRICTS IN THE PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Coastal Management Act of 1977 created a sixteen member Alaska Coastal Policy Council (CPC) comprised of seven State-agency heads and nine local elected officials whom the governor appointed from a list of names submitted by local officials in each of nine coastal regions defined in the Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the CPC, with support of the former Division of Governmental Coordination in the Alaska Governor's Office, was responsible for approving coastal district policies, approving coastal district management plans and hearing appeals from decisions on coastal development projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the CPC was omitted from the legislative revision of the Alaska Coastal Management Program in 2003 and the statutory and regulatory changes required the Aleutians East Borough to rewrite its coastal management plan and enforceable policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the resulting AEB Coastal Management Plan cannot have enforceable policies addressing a resource or subject matter that is regulated by another state or federal agency, leaving very little for the Borough to comment on as project comments are likewise restricted to only those matters for which the AEB has enforceable policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Aleutians East Borough does not regulate environmental factors such as air, water and habitat; however, it would still benefit the AEB to have meaningful and reasonable coastal policies addressing these and other areas of concern as a basis for inter-agency coordination with those state and federal agencies which exercise these authorities; and

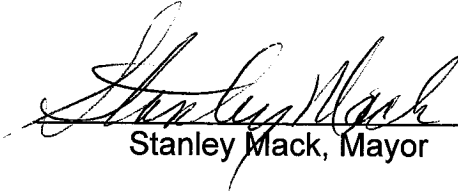
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY** supports the legislative changes proposed in HB-74 and SB-4, which would restore a Coastal Policy Board (CPB), in lieu of the

former CPC, which would provide a more streamlined planning and policy review process than the former CPC and which would provide balance and intellectual independence from the centralized policy, planning and permitting program administered by the Division of Coastal Ocean Management (DCOM) within the Alaska Dept of Natural Resources (ADNR); and

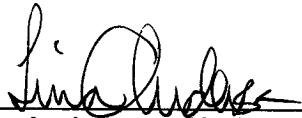
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the proposed legislation would: 1) create a CPB consisting of five public members appointed by the governor including one at-large and one member from each of four coastal district regions which are Northwest, Southeast, Upper Cook Inlet and Southwest; and, four commissioners from the departments of environmental conservation, fish and game, natural resources and commerce, community and economic development, which would be responsible for approving coastal grant allocations, coastal district policies, and approving coastal district plans; 2) would restore the ability of coastal districts to adopt meaningful plan policies even if they involve technical environmental issues or resources regulated solely by a state or federal agency as a basis for local dialogue during project reviews and coordination with those same state and federal agencies which are responsible for regulating said environmental factors and resources; and 3) would restore subsistence use of animal and vegetative resources as a use of state concern in the coastal zone; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these bills would promote economic development by bringing local, state, and federal agencies closer together to ensure early resolution of issues related to a development project. Although the Aleutians East Borough Coastal District still has a "seat at the table" with state and federal agencies, the currently approved plan policies do not allow any overlap with the regulations or jurisdiction of said agencies, leave very little for the Aleutians East Borough Coastal District to comment on because comments can only flow from the districts adopted policies, thereby discouraging local input into the project review process and minimizing the agency coordination which is intended to be the hallmark of the coastal project review process.

**ADOPTED BY THE ALEUTIANS EAST BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2009.**

  
Stanley Mack, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Tina Anderson, Clerk