Introduced by: City Manager Herron
Date April 24, 2001
Action: Passed
Vote: Unanimous

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #01-14

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING SENATE BILL 48

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 48 relates to "Municipalities . . . incorporation of boroughs and property valuation." This legislation is referred to as "Equity in Funding Education Act," and;

WHEREAS, The ultimate goal of this legislation is to have unorganized Alaska contribute financially to their district's education system by mandating a four-mill equivalent on all taxable property or a sales tax, or a combination of the above within a school district without a vote of the residents of the affected area, and;

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 48 arranges for an additional method for incorporation of new boroughs or annexation into existing boroughs where affected residents will not be able to vote for incorporation, and;

WHEREAS, The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) must provide to the Local Boundary Commission (LBC) a list of areas in the unorganized borough that reasonably appear to satisfy current standards for borough incorporation or annexation every year, and;

WHEREAS, The LBC will consider and then select from this list areas that may warrant incorporation or annexation. The bill that passed the Senate limits it to two petitions per year, and;

WHEREAS, At least one public hearing in each community with a population over 200 will be held, though there will be a hearing, affected areas are NOT able to vote on incorporation or annexation, and;

WHEREAS, Money generated from tax is to be used to fund schools, this amount will be subtracted from the state education funding from that borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Bethel, Alaska, is opposed to Senate Bill 48, as the Council believes Senate Bill 48, as currently written, is not in the best interest of unorganized areas in Alaska.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF APRIL 2001, by a unanimous voice vote.

Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Colleen Soberay, City Clerk