

Introduced by: Council Member Berger
Date: March 25, 2003
Action: Adopted
Vote: Unanimous

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #03-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING THE US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (TSA), TO GIVE LOCAL PREFERENCE IN THE HIRING OF ALL TRANSPORTATION SECURITY PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT THE BETHEL AIRPORT IN BETHEL, ALASKA

- WHEREAS**, the City of Bethel recognizes the importance of security services to air travelers, airports and aircraft at the Bethel airport, and;
- WHEREAS**, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) began their operations at the Bethel airport on approximately November 1, 2002 and has operated security screening and other services continuously since that time, and;
- WHEREAS**, the TSA initially recruited local residents for the available positions at the Bethel Airport, but has not provided for the required assessments in order for the local applicants to be hired for these positions, and has instead filled all of the Bethel positions with residents of Fairbanks, Alaska who are rotated from Fairbanks in and out of our community on a one-week schedule. Airfare, lodging, car rentals, and per diem has been provided throughout the past five month period entirely at the expense of the United States government, and;
- WHEREAS**, this policy effectively discriminates against local applicants who have applied for these jobs and are denied employment because the TSA has not provided for their assessments, thus not allowing for employment from within our community and region, and;
- WHEREAS**, efforts to meet with the TSA supervisor of the Bethel Airport Operations have been unsuccessful to date, and the above described workforce is operating the security services at the Bethel airport in violation of the TSA's own rules and procedures, which do not provide for transportation costs of their employees to the worksite on a weekly rotation basis from another location at government expense and continue to deny our people and our community any benefit of these jobs being placed in Bethel.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the City Council of Bethel supports local hire of all TSA positions that are provided for the Bethel Alaska Airport, and;

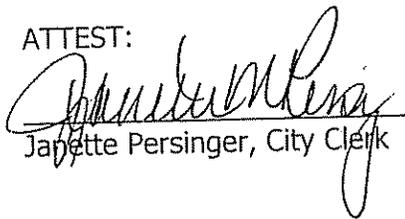
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council of Bethel requests the supervisory personnel of the TSA take immediate action to meet with community leaders to resolve the current situation and to immediately cease importing their entire workforce from outside of our community and to make provisions to hire all of their staff from Bethel and surrounding villages.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution is to be forwarded to the Honorable Governor Frank H. Murkowski, Honorable Senator Ted Stevens, Senator Lyman Hoffman, Senator Lisa Murkowski, Representative Don Young, Representative Mary Kapsner and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 25th DAY OF MARCH 2003, by unanimous vote.


Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Jarrette Persinger, City Clerk