

Introduced by: Council member Notti  
Date: March 26, 2002  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: Unanimous

## **CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA**

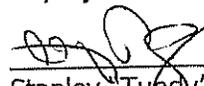
### **RESOLUTION #02-09**

#### **A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE STATE OF ALASKA ELIMINATING STATE OVERSIGHT OF ANY ESTABLISHMENT THAT SERVES OR SELLS FOOD TO THE PUBLIC AND THE ELIMINATION OF STATE OVERSIGHT OF SANITATION PRACTICES IN PUBLIC PLACES**

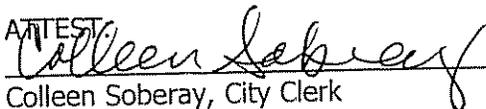
- WHEREAS**, The City of Bethel objects to the proposed elimination of oversight of all restaurants, grocery stores, school kitchens, temporary food establishments, bars and any place that sells food to the public, and;
- WHEREAS**, The City of Bethel also opposes the proposed elimination of oversight of the sanitation practices in day care centers, public pools and spas, and similar public facilities, and;
- WHEREAS**, The State's proposed elimination would have a significant impact on local governments in that the onus would be on municipalities, and;
- WHEREAS**, The theory behind the State's proposed reduction is that local communities would provide these services, thus impacting local government budgets, and;
- WHEREAS**, Bethel has 72 food establishments and public facilities currently regulated by the State of Alaska Division of Environmental Health, and 350 is considered a full-time job, and;
- WHEREAS**, Because the Division of Environmental Health has difficulty filling its vacancies for this type of a full-time job, it would be difficult for a municipality of Bethel's size to find the expertise required to fill what would only require part-time employment, and;
- WHEREAS**, The community in regard to health and economic development might suffer as result of this oversight eliminated from the State's budget, and;
- WHEREAS**, The City of Bethel recognizes the importance of sanitation oversight, and;
- WHEREAS**, The City of Bethel does not have the resources to be responsible for this oversight.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of Bethel, Alaska, opposes the proposed elimination of State oversight of any place that serves or sells food to the public and the oversight of sanitation practices of public places, and encourages the State Legislature not to eliminate the funding for this important function of the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 26<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2002, by a unanimous voice vote.**

  
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Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers, Mayor

ATTEST

  
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Colleen Soberay, City Clerk