

Introduced by: Mayor Robb  
Date: February 9, 2016  
Action: Passed  
Vote: 7-0

## *CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA*

### **Resolution # 16-07**

#### **A RESOLUTION OF BY THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIRMENT SYSTEM REFORM**

- WHEREAS,** the City of Bethel, and other municipalities, contribute to The Public Employee Retirement System (PERS);
- WHEREAS,** included in Senate Bill 125 in 2008 was language requiring municipalities to pay termination costs and "below the floor costs" on the termination of a department, group, or classification of employees;
- WHEREAS,** those lay-offs that are made up of a department, group, or classification will result in a charge to local governments for the actual study, followed by charges for each of those employee's past service cost for approximately 30 years;
- WHEREAS,** if the total base salary of any municipality falls below what it was in 2008 (the year of SB 125), then charges will be assessed on that drop, as well;
- WHEREAS,** these rules severely limit the ability of municipalities, including the City of Bethel, from being agile in the workplace, including eliminating no longer needed departments, groups, or classifications;
- WHEREAS,** these rules severely limit the ability of municipalities, including the City of Bethel, from creating new needed departments, groups, or classifications for fear of future termination studies and termination costs extending up to 30 years in the future;
- WHEREAS,** municipalities, including the City of Bethel, require agility and adaptability in the workforce to meet our changing needs;
- WHEREAS,** with our current state fiscal crisis, municipalities, including the City of Bethel, may need to make reductions or increasing in the workforce including entire departments, groups, or classifications of employees;

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**WHEREAS,** the State of Alaska is not subject to these rules as an employer, and the State of Alaska is making serious considerations to reducing its workforce.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** The City of Bethel supports reform in the Public Employee Retirement system. These reforms include eliminating termination studies and all costs for reducing or eliminating departments, groups, or classifications of employees, as well as not inhibiting future additions of departments, groups, or classifications of employees.

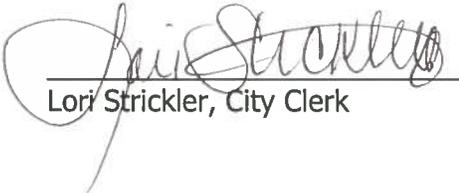
**ENACTED THIS 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2016 BY A VOTE OF 7 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.**



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Richard Robb, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Lori Strickler, City Clerk