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2 Mr. Tesche addressed the *No Child Left Behind* program. Ms. Comeau responded the ASD had written to Senators
3 Stevens and Murkowski and Representative Young and many others to make them aware of the costs and meeting
4 the requirements of the *No Child Left Behind*. Mr. Tesche offered for Assemblymembers to be involved with the effort
5 and Ms. Comeau stated she would share copies of all commutations and keep them informed.

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7 YVONNE GUTIERREZ, who had recently purchased a home, testified that she thought it was important for cities to
8 offer more affordable housing to low-income families. She had first become discouraged with the process and had
9 almost given up, but finally had completed the paperwork with the help of a good real estate agent. Mr. Tremaine
0 stated he had respect for her, being single, having a fulltime job and four children. To Mr. Stout, she responded that
1 she had used her family to help take care of her children and had struggled continually with day care when her children
2 were young. Because of the cost of day care, she had only recently been financially able to consider housing as an
3 option for her family.

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5 KIM BOWMAN, a new homeowner and was considered middle-income, had spent his savings moving to Alaska and
6 had had to live for a time in the back of his Ford Explorer. Mr. Bowman knew there would be people who would be
7 discouraged with the paperwork for programs available to low-income families. Mr. Whittle thanked him for presenting
8 his story. To Ms. Fairclough, he stated that he supported the resolution because action was needed on the housing
9 issue.

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11 With no further public testimony, Chair Traini closed Public Hearing and called the Question.

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13 Mr. Tesche moved, to approve AR 2004-236.
14 Ms. Jennings seconded,

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16 Acting Chair Tesche explained that Mr. Traini was a Board Member of the National League of Cities. Mr. Traini spoke
17 of a book, *Knock at Midnight*, written by Dr. Martin Luther King, speaking of "Untouchables." Dr. King had described
18 the four factors that led to individuals having that classification, including financial security, education, affordable
19 housing with the concept of home ownership and having the opportunity of living the American Dream. Mr. Traini
20 credited Thomas Jefferson with the concept of *The American Dream*, as "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."
21 Mr. Traini distributed handouts from the National League of Cities, indicating the domestic concerns of citizens across
22 the nation. He thanked Mr. Tesche and Mr. Tremaine for their help with getting this resolution on the National Agenda.
23 Their goal for America was to be one nation, working together to resolve the issues and to allow the opportunity of
24 living the American Dream. He urged approval of this resolution.

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26 Mr. Coffey supported this resolution. He stated there were four elements of affordable housing including land, labor,
27 materials for construction and financing. He thought it was the role of government to provide a framework for things to
28 be accomplished, allowing people to make choices. Mr. Coffey recommended working directly with the Alaska
29 Housing Finance Corporation, which offered tremendous opportunities with bonding and financing programs, because
30 affordable housing did cost money.

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32 Mayor Begich stated that he appreciated all of the work and efforts of the Assembly. He announced the associated
33 events scheduled by the Administration, including Diversity Week, celebrated from September 27 to October 3, 2004.
34 He stated that home ownership needed to be available for everyone. His Administration had helped reorganize
35 Housing and Urban Development Funding (*HUD*) because the record keeping had been a mess. He spoke of the
36 innovations his Administration was involved with, including securing future funding opportunities from HUD, promoting
37 many programs, making affordable housing possible. He spoke of *Houses for Humanity*, a program involved with the
38 renovations of the Sadler Building in Spenard. Mayor Begich spoke of the Creek Side Redevelopment, creating a new
39 source for affordable housing. He stated the Housing Authority would be another tool to use as a source of affordable
40 housing. The Administration had proposed future garages for downtown that could also accommodate housing. The
41 Mayor and his Administration had been working with the ASD to support improvements to the city's education system.
42 He encouraged everyone to celebrate Diversity Week and announced some of the many activities scheduled that
43 week. He thought it was important to raise diversity awareness, create opportunities and to follow the issues into the
44 future. He recently attended an East High School pep rally and had been informed by the principal that, for the first
45 time in history, the school had a "no-majority."

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47 Ms. Fairclough stated that she would support the resolution, but she felt it was important to address associated costs.
48 She spoke of the high subsidies from government and the sacrifices and the services that would be cut, in order to
49 support affordable housing. She thought that the federal government could make land entitlement rights available for
50 private ownership in Anchorage. She thought the Municipality would be challenged in the future with the concept of
51 "affordable" housing because they lacked a direction in their own policy making.

52
53 Ms. Fairclough moved, to amend AR 2004-236, by deleting on Page 1, Lines [29] 39
54 Mr. Sullivan seconded, and 44, to read: "...[affordable] housing..."

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56 Mr. Tesche was concerned they would be sending the wrong message, that only people with money could share the
57 American Dream and have affordable housing. He urged a NO-vote on the Fairclough Amendment.

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59 Mr. Whittle thought it was the role of government to assist with affordable housing, with programs like Habitat for
60 Humanity, but thought the word "affordable" needed to remain. He would be a NO-vote.

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62 Mr. Coffey stated he would be a NO-vote and wanted to clarify what was meant by "affordable."

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64 Chair Traini cited statistics and histories of cities burdened with blight, showing when housing was improved, the blight
65 had decreased. He stated that ownership was critically important and urged support to leave it as-is.

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67 Ms. Fairclough stated she would support the affordable housing issue, but warned the Assembly that the issue would
68 need to be addressed with Title 21.

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and this motion failed,

AYES: Fairclough and Sullivan.
NAYES: Whittle, Tremaine, Traini, Tesche, Stout, Jennings, Ossiander and Coffey.
ABSENT: Shamberg, excused.

(Clerk's Note: Mr. Sullivan was excused from the meeting.)

Chair called for discussion on main motion.

Ms. Fairclough stated she would be a YES-vote.

Mr. Tremaine stated that it was important for housing to be within reach of every American and thought it was important to support this issue across the nation, with the National League of Cities represented in 18,000 cities, supporting affordable housing and education. He encouraged Mayor Begich and Chair Traini to continue working together. He stated he would be a YES-vote.

Chair Traini honored Mr. Tesche for originally suggesting having the NLC address this issue. It would be a tool to bring the city, the state and the federal government together.

Mr. Whittle stated that this was a good idea, having this effort coincide with Diversity Week. Mr. Whittle stated that he strongly believed in promoting private development and stabilizing the economy. He spoke of the partnership with the Town Center in Muldoon offering quality beautification in the city. He spoke of equal opportunity, with minorities as the majority in the future. He stated that education, including adult education, needed to also remain a priority and that the issue of safety also needed to remain a priority. He stated that the city could be promoting private economic development for opportunities for everyone and believed that a stable economy was the basis for accomplishing all goals. He would be a YES-vote.

Mr. Tesche thanked Mr. Tremaine for the recognition of his introducing the Domestic Agenda idea to the National League of Cities. He thought the Assembly Meeting, along with hundreds of thousands of people across the nation, particularly during a national election, would get attention. He stated this would involve the city, the state and the federal governments working together.

Chair Traini thanked the body for all of their support.

Ms. Ossiander called the Question

and this motion was passed,

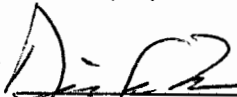
AYES: Fairclough, Whittle, Tremaine, Traini, Tesche, Stout, Jennings, Ossiander and Coffey.
NAYES: None.
ABSENT: Shamberg and Sullivan, each excused.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Traini called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

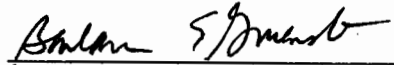
Mr. Coffey moved, to adjourn the Special Assembly Meeting.
Mr. Tesche seconded,
and this was passed unanimously,

(Clerk's Note: The Special Assembly Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.)



DICK TRAINI, Assembly Chair

ATTEST:



BARBARA GRUENSTEIN, Municipal Clerk
Date Minutes Approved: October 26, 2004.
MC/BG