

Submitted by: Assembly Member Selkregg and Mayor Begich  
Prepared by: Assembly Member Selkregg  
For reading: June 24, 2008

**CLERK'S OFFICE**

**APPROVED**

Date: 6-24-08

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**  
**AR 2008-140**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AND MAYOR MARK BEGICH RECOGNIZING JULY 5, 2008 AS THELMA BUCHHOLDT DAY IN CELEBRATION OF THELMA'S LIFE TIME COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE THAT UPHOLDS SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE GREAT VALUES OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND RESPECT FOR ALL PEOPLES.**

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WHEREAS, Thelma Buchholdt was a resident of Anchorage from June 1965 until her death in November 2007, and during that time served the Anchorage community as a tireless and dedicated public servant, concurrently at local, state, and national levels. She was an active agent of change committed to social justice and the value of cultural diversity; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Buchholdt was a community leader who held elected office for most of her life; who served as the first woman president of the Filipino Community of Anchorage, Alaska, Inc.; the first president of the board of directors of the Asian Alaskan Cultural Center; the first person of Asian heritage to serve as president of the National Order of Women Legislators; the first three-term president of the Filipino American National Historical Society; and a member for over 30 years of the Alaska State Advisory Committee of the United States Commission on Civil Rights; and

WHEREAS Thelma was elected to the Alaska State House of Representatives in 1974, making her the first Filipino woman elected to a state legislative body in the United States and the first Filipino of either gender to serve in a U.S. mainland state Legislature. Thelma was reelected three times, serving the Spenard district in Anchorage until 1982; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Buchholdt also played an active role in the March of Dimes, the League of Women Voters, and she helped found the Boys and Girls Clubs of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Thelma Buchholdt was a historian and the author of the book "Filipinos in Alaska: 1788 to 1958", and she successfully worked for over a decade to plan the upcoming National Biennial Conference of the Filipino American National Historical Society held in Anchorage from July 3 to July 5, 2008, and

WHEREAS, Thelma Buchholdt was a truly great citizen and a dedicated spokesperson on the need for education and promotion of indigenous cultural heritage of Alaska and of the Philippines, and she worked diligently towards increasing public understanding of cultural diversity and respect for differing cultural backgrounds as a means to promote social justice.

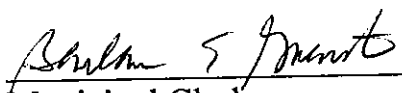
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage Municipal Assembly and Mayor Mark Begich recognize the great life time accomplishments of Thelma's life and celebrates JULY 5, 2008 as THELMA BUCHHOLDT DAY.

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PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly this  
24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2008.

  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
Municipal Clerk