

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2026-35, As Amended

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY REAFFIRMING ITS**
2 **COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND**
3 **CALLING UPON THE ALASKA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO PASS**
4 **LEGISLATION REFORMING FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT**
5 **OPERATIONS.**
6

7
8 **WHEREAS**, the abiding belief in the inherent dignity of all human beings, and the
9 principle that all people hold an equal claim to the rights of life, liberty, and due
10 process of law, forms the bedrock of a free society; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, our nation was born out of necessity: the necessity of many disparate
13 peoples to bind themselves together in defense of rights that were being stripped
14 by an indifferent government imposing arbitrary laws and enforcing them at the point
15 of a bayonet; and
16

17 **WHEREAS**, even before independence had been secured, the individual states
18 ratified their own constitutions, not only to codify the new social contract by which
19 they intended to be governed, but to safeguard the rights their former sovereign had
20 denied them; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, in 1787 the Constitution of the United States was drafted, later ratified
23 by the States, and in 1789 the First Congress swiftly approved the first ten
24 amendments thereto, collectively known as the Bill of Rights, which were then
25 ratified by the States in 1791; and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees the freedoms
28 of speech, peaceful assembly, and the right to petition the government for redress
29 of grievances; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, the Second Amendment guarantees the right of the people to keep and
32 bear arms; and
33

34 **WHEREAS**, the Fourth Amendment guarantees the right of the people to be secure
35 in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and
36 seizures; and
37

38 **WHEREAS**, the Fifth Amendment guarantees that no individual shall be deprived of
39 life, liberty, or property without due process of law; and
40

41 **WHEREAS**, the Sixth Amendment guarantees the right to a fair, public, and speedy
42 trial, and to competent legal representation; and
43

1 **WHEREAS**, the Eighth Amendment forbids the imposition of cruel and unusual
2 punishment; and
3

4 **WHEREAS**, the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution affirms that powers not
5 delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to the States, are
6 reserved to the States respectively, or to the people, including the primary
7 responsibility for the provision of local law enforcement and public safety; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution requires that no
10 State shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law,
11 and that all persons are entitled to the equal protection of the laws; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the founders were imperfect people themselves, subject to the
14 prejudices of their times and failed to live up to the ideals they proclaimed by denying
15 an equal share of these rights to women as well as to both enslaved and indigenous
16 peoples; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, despite our nation's originally limited definition of who comprised "the
19 people" entitled to the full enjoyment, exercise, and protection of their rights, our
20 understanding of the fundamental nature of these rights has in many ways remained
21 unchanged; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, it was understood then, even as it is understood now, that these rights
24 are natural and inalienable, and not the creation of any sovereign, Congress, or
25 even the Constitution itself;¹ and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, it was understood then, even as it is understood now, that the role of
28 government is to safeguard the rights of the people;² and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, it was understood then, even as it is understood now, that when any
31 government fails in its obligations to secure the rights of the people, or even
32 becomes abusive of those rights, it is not only the people's right but their obligation
33 to reform that government;³ and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, over the nearly 250 years since our founding, we have steadily, if
36 inconsistently, strived as a people to expand our understanding of fundamental
37 rights, and extend their application to protect all people regardless of race, gender,
38 or national origin; and
39

40 **WHEREAS**, our history is marked by the vitally important work of patriots and social
41 movements that have rightly called upon our government to live up to the aspirations
42 of our founding documents, recognizing that our shared goal of "a more perfect
43 union" requires public accountability and constant vigilance; and
44

45 **WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Anchorage is served by a professional, highly
46 trained, and well-educated local police department whose officers are sworn to
47 uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the
48 State of Alaska, and who carry out their public safety mission in accordance with
49 the rule of law, due process, and respect for the rights and dignity of all persons;
50 and
51

1 **WHEREAS**, members of the U.S. Congressional delegation representing Alaska,
2 including Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan, and Representative Nick
3 Begich voted in favor of the passage of the “One, Big Beautiful Bill” in 2025; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, passage of the “One, Big Beautiful Bill Act” resulted in significant
6 funding increases toward, and the militarized expansion of, the Department of
7 Homeland Security (DHS),⁴ Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE),⁵ the U.S.
8 Border Patrol (USBP);⁶ and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the recent deployment of ICE agents to Minneapolis–St. Paul has
11 resulted in civil unrest and the killings of individuals in the streets by federal agents;
12 and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which includes Alaska,
15 has held that “activities such as demonstrations, protest marches, and picketing are
16 clearly protected by the First Amendment”;⁷ and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the Ninth Circuit has also held that there is a First Amendment right to
19 record matters of public interest in public places, which “includes the right to record
20 law enforcement officers engaged in the exercise of their official duties in public
21 places”;⁸ and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, the killing of individuals by federal agents without lawful justification
24 would constitute an unlawful deprivation of life and a grave violation of constitutional
25 protections; and
26

27 **WHEREAS**, high-ranking federal government officials and federal agents have gone
28 on record to brand those killed as “professional agitators”,⁹ “would-be assassins”,¹⁰
29 “terrorists”,¹¹ or “violent rioters”¹² before any official inquiry or transparent
30 investigation has even begun, let alone concluded; and
31

32 **WHEREAS**, characterizing lawful and constitutionally protected actions of the
33 United States citizenry, specifically acts of assembly, protest, and the lawful carrying
34 of firearms in accordance with state and federal law, as inherently suspicious or
35 threatening is contrary to both the text and spirit of the First and Second
36 Amendments; and
37

38 **WHEREAS**, the current federal government Administration has undertaken a
39 program of mass deportation of persons to prison camps, both foreign and domestic,
40 without even cursory judicial review — and often in direct contravention of judicial
41 orders — constituting a blatant deprivation of liberty without due process of law in
42 violation of the Fifth Amendment; and
43

44 **WHEREAS**, Senator Murkowski recently voted in favor of repealing more than \$75
45 billion dollars of funds from ICE to be reappropriated to Medicaid, and this measure
46 ultimately failed on a vote of 49-51; ¹³ and
47

48 **WHEREAS**, remembering the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., that “in the end,
49 we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends,” this
50 Assembly finds itself compelled to publicly and unequivocally address this issue;
51 now, therefore,

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

Section 1. To express our solidarity with the local and state governments of the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the State of Minnesota, and with the people they serve, in their efforts to uphold constitutional principles, protect public safety, and ensure that the rights and dignity of all persons are respected during times of civil unrest and federal enforcement activity.

Section 2. That we reaffirm our oath of office to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Alaska, and the Charter of the Municipality of Anchorage, and to protect the fundamental rights of all human beings.

Section 3. That we affirm the following rights of the people:

- To be secure in their homes and free from unreasonable searches and seizures, and that entry into a home generally requires a valid warrant issued by a court and signed properly by a judge.
- To lawfully possess a firearm without the mere possession being construed as an objectively reasonable basis for the use of lethal force.
- To not be illegally detained without legal justification, probable cause or proper legal authority.
- To peacefully express themselves, to assemble, and to petition the government without retaliation or intimidation.

Section 4. To call upon our Congressional Delegation to stand firm in defense of the Constitution and all peoples of the United States and assert the full powers of their offices to pass legislation requiring:

- A full, independent investigation into recent uses of deadly force by agents of the federal government.
- Transparency in federal immigration enforcement operations, including by making federal immigration agents individually identifiable to the public when conducting public operations, just as the police are.
- Increased training and regulation of federal immigration enforcement agents with respect to the public's constitutional rights, including freedom of speech, assembly, the right to legally bear arms, and the right to record government activity in public places.
- Meaningful reform of immigration enforcement tactics and practices so they align with constitutional principles and international human rights law.
- The restriction of federal funds for immigration enforcement operations until these measures are fully implemented.

Section 5. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 3rd day of February, 2026.

Christy L. Conant

Chair

ATTEST:

Janie L. King

Municipal Clerk

¹ See DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE para. 2 (U.S.1776).

² See *id.*

³ See *id.*

⁴ Pub.L.No. 119-21 §§ 90005, 90007, 1000051, 100053 & 100054, 139 Stat. 72, 358, 361[-] (2025). [~~§§ 60004, 70113, 70119, 70123, and 70124~~] appropriating over \$20,000,000,000, apart from funds earmarked for Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and US Customs & Border Protection[~~Patrol~~](USCBP), either directly or in support of the Department of Homeland Security to remain available through September, 2029.

⁵ *Id.* at § 90003 & 100052 [~~70101~~] appropriating \$45,000,000,000 and \$29,500,000,000 respectively to ICE to remain available through September, 2029.

⁶ *Id.* at §§ 90001, 90002 & 90004 [~~60001, 60002, and 60003~~] appropriating over \$60,000,000,000 to USCBP to remain available through September, 2029.

⁷ *Collins v. Jordan*, 110 F.3d 1363, 1371 (9th Cir. 1996).

⁸ *Askins v. U.S. Dept. Homeland Sec.*, 899 F.3d 1035, 1044 (9th Cir., 2018)

⁹ See <https://www.nytimes.com/2026/01/20/us/politics/trump-renee-good-ice-shooting.html>

¹⁰ See <https://x.com/StephenM/status/2015132322840850461>

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² See <https://x.com/TriciaOhio/status/2008957179793998266>

¹³ See S.Amdt. 4290, 119th Cong. (2026)