CLERK'S OFF	ICE
APPROVEI)
Date: 2-3-98	

Submitted by: Assemblymembers MURDY, VON GEMMINGEN, Abney, Begich, Bell, Carlson, Clementson, Kendall, Meyer, Wohlforth, Wuerch

Prepared by: Assembly Office For reading: February 3, 1998

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 98-40

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY REQUESTING AND SUPPORTING THAT THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE APPROVE A WAIVER OF THE FOREIGN RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 212(E) FOR NATALIA CLARK

WHEREAS, Natalia Clark is a teacher from Russia who competed and won a U. S. grant to spend one school year working in an American High School; and

WHEREAS, Natalia was selected to assist Wendy Baker at Bartlett High School to teach the Russian language during the 1996-1997 school year; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 1996, Natalia married Jon Clark (a Property & Facility Management Department employee for the Municipality of Anchorage); and on July 4, 1997, their twelve year-old daughter Sabina (who Jon plans to adopt) immigrated to the United States; and

WHEREAS, presently, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) plans to deport Natalia and force her to live in Russia separated from Jon and their daughter for two years; and

WHEREAS, prior to their marriage, the INS was contacted to determine the procedure to marry a Russian woman and to determine what to do concerning the two-year requirement for Natalia to live in Russia after her grant ended; and

WHEREAS, Natalia has contacted her coordinator in Washington, D.C., who advised her of the process to obtain a waiver of the two-year requirement; and

WHEREAS, if Natalia is sent back to Russia for two years, much hardship will be suffered by her husband, Jon, and their daughter, Sabina, who is presently an honor student at Mears Jr. High School.

NOW. THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

<u>Section 1:</u> That this body believes that Jon and Natalia Clark and their daughter Sabina should not be separated.

<u>Section 2:</u> That this body requests and supports a waiver of the Foreign Residence Requirement of Section 212(e) be approved by INS for Natalia Clark.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly this 3rd day of February, 1998.

Mel B

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk Septimination Septimination