

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 11-17-98

Submitted by: Assemblymembers Von Gemmingen, Abney,  
Bell, Murdy, Taylor, Wuerch  
Prepared by: Assembly Office  
For reading: November 17, 1998

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
AR NO. 98-364

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AUTHORIZING THAT THE BALANCE OF THE INTEREST FREE LOAN TO THE IMAGINARIUM BE REDIRECTED AS A GRANT TO THIS NONPROFIT SCIENCE DISCOVERY CENTER**

WHEREAS, the Imaginarium is a science discovery center, which brings science and families together by stimulating interest in and understanding of science and technology through exciting, inquiry-based, hands-on, minds-ons exhibits and programs; and

WHEREAS, the Center, which opened in 1987, is the only facility of this type in the State of Alaska averaging 100,000 visitors annually of which only 14,000 are tourists; and

WHEREAS, in addition to traveling exhibits, the Center provides daily science demonstrations and classes, birthday parties, and operates as a Statewide resource for science education; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the Anchorage Daily News Readers Poll voted the Imaginarium as the "Best Place to Take Kids," and the Center also received the 1992 Chamber of Commerce Gold Pan Award for Service to Youth; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Imaginarium, Inc. requested a \$120,000 grant to assist with relocation costs and increased rent payments; and

WHEREAS, during the 1996 budget process, the Assembly approved a \$40,000 grant and an \$80,000 interest free loan for the purposes of assisting the Imaginarium with these increased operating costs; and

WHEREAS, Imaginarium, Inc. has made payments to the Municipality and has engaged in its best efforts to fulfill its agreement to repay the \$80,000 loan; and

WHEREAS, the daily operating costs of Imaginarium, Inc. have increased substantially since 1996, and the larger donor contributions received by nonprofit corporations in Anchorage, including the Imaginarium, have decreased significantly, and has adversely affected revenue; and

WHEREAS, this financial situation has caused Imaginarium, Inc. to request that the balance of the loan be redirected as a grant; and

WHEREAS, Imaginarium, Inc., a nonprofit organization, is of great benefit to the Anchorage community and clearly warrants the financial support of the community as a whole.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

**Section 1:** That the balance of the loan in the amount of \$75,000 is authorized to be redirected as a grant to the Imaginarium.

**Section 2:** That this resolution is effective immediately upon passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1998.

*Taylor Von Gemmingen*  
Chair

ATTEST:

*Lynne Ferguson*  
Municipal Clerk

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