

Submitted by: Assemblymembers Von Gemmingen, Tesche, Van Etten, Shamberg, Tremaine, Traini,

Fairclough, and Taylor

Prepared by: Department of Assembly

For reading: March 5, 2002

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2002-74

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING A LONG-RANGE FISCAL PLAN THIS YEAR THAT ENSURES A STABLE FUTURE FOR ALL ALASKANS BY PROMOTING AFFORDABLE STATE AND LOCAL TAX LEVELS AND ADEQUATE STATE AND LOCAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, one dollar out of three spent this year in the State General Fund budget (\$865 Million out of \$2.4 billion) is projected to come from Alaska's savings; and

WHEREAS, according to the Alaska Department of Revenue, by mid-year 2004, the "fiscal gap" is projected to be over \$1 billion and Alaska's savings account (Constitutional Budget Reserve) will be fully depleted if action is not taken this year; and

WHEREAS, if nothing is done and a \$1 billion "fiscal gap" occurs in 2004, local taxpayers will be forced to choose between severely reduced public services or massively increased taxes to cover the cost of schools, roads, and other State services; and

WHEREAS, the State should continue to implement efficiencies and reasonable service reductions, but also recognize that reductions alone cannot solve the magnitude of the projected "fiscal gap"; and

WHEREAS, a long-range fiscal plan should provide financial stability, be sustainable, advance financial investment policies that maximize returns of the State's assets, and be fair; and

WHEREAS, if action is taken this year, Alaska can avoid depleting the Constitutional Budget Reserve and use this last savings account to act as a cushion for Alaska to avoid harsher cuts, higher taxes, and/or greater use of Permanent Fund earnings to solve the "fiscal gap."

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves

Section 1: That the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature are urged to take action during the 2nd Session of the 22nd Legislature to adopt a fiscal plan that avoids a fiscal crisis in 2004.

<u>Section 2:</u> That all citizens within the Municipality of Anchorage are encouraged to contact the Governor and their legislators to encourage them to adopt a fiscal plan during the current legislative session.

<u>Section 3:</u> That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor and the Alaska State Legislature immediately upon passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 5 day of March,

VSc. E.S.
Chair

ATTEST

Municipal Clerk EGJ/2000/AESOLUTIONS/AR19

Municipality of Anchorage MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE

Agenda Document Control Sheet

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION) DATE PREPARED SUBJECT OF AGENDA DOCUMENT A Resolution Supporting a Long-Range Fiscal Plan this Year 4-Mar-02 That Ensures a Stable Future for All Alaskans by Promoting Indicate Documents Attached Affordable State and Local Tax Levels and Adequate State AO X AR MA MIA and Local Services DEPARTMENT NAME Greg Moyer Assembly THE PERSON THE DOCUMENT WAS ACTUALLY PREPARED BY HIS/HER PHONE NUMBER 3 4 INITIALS DATE COORDINATED WITH AND REVIEWED BY Mayor Heritage Land Bank Merrill Field Airport Municipal Light & Power Port of Anchorage Solid Waste Services Water & Wastewater Utility Municipal Manager Cultural & Recreational Services **Employee Relations** Finance, Chief Fiscal Officer Fire Health & Human Services Office of Management and Budget Management Information Services Police Planning, Development & Public Works **Development Services Facility Management** Planning Project Management & Engineering Street Maintenance Traffic **Public Transportation Department** Purchasing Municipal Attorney Municipal Clerk Other a ddende 5 Special Instructions/Comments ASSEMBLY HEARING DATE REQUESTED PUBLIC HEARING DATE REQUESTED