

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 4-13-04

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 2004-73

Submitted by: Assemblymembers Tesche, Traini,
and Tremaine, Taylor, Von Gemmingen, Van Etten,
Prepared by: Department of Assembly Shamberg,
For reading: March 26, 2004 Whittle

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY URGING THE ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO UPHOLD THE APRIL 2003 DECISION OF THE ANCHORAGE VOTERS TO AMEND THE HOME RULE CHARTER AND SET REQUIREMENTS FOR RUNOFF ELECTIONS IN THE OFFICE OF MAYOR

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2003, Anchorage voters approved an amendment to our Home Rule Charter by a vote of 54.99% in favor and 45.01% against which eliminated the need for a runoff elections for the offices of Assembly, School Board, and the Mayor if a candidate receives more than 45% of the vote; and

WHEREAS, since unification, the Home Rule Charter has set local requirements for runoff elections as determined by the Anchorage voters and without interference by the Alaska State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, on the Senate Floor on March 24, 2004, Senator Ben Stevens proposed a floor amendment to Senate Bill 227, "An Act relating to municipal initiative and referendum elections" which inserted "runoff elections" in the title; and

WHEREAS, Senator Stevens amendment also included a new subsection stating that for municipalities with less than 100,000 residents, runoff elections would be held if no candidate for the office of mayor receives over 40 percent of the votes cast; and

WHEREAS, an additional amendment was made that required a runoff election for the office of mayor in municipalities with a population over 100,000 if no candidate receives over 50 percent of the votes cast; and

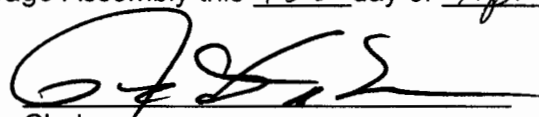
WHEREAS, there is no rationale for the State Legislature to substitute its own judgement for the local voters in determining requirements for runoff elections.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

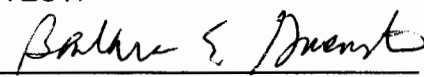
Section 1: That the Alaska House of Representatives is urged to uphold the April 2003 decision of the Anchorage voters to amend the Home Rule Charter and set requirements for runoff elections in the office of Mayor and reject the two floor amendments made by the Senate on March 24, 2004.

Section 2: That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor and the State Legislature immediately upon passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 13th day of April, 2004.


Chair

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk
EGJ/2004RESOLUTIONS/AR08

