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COFFEY, BIRCH, OSSIANDER, CLAMAN

Reviewed by: ASSEMBLY COUNSEL

For reading: October 14, 2008

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 10/14/08

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2008-209

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY TO SUPPORT THE
ALASKA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE IN URGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO
AMEND ALASKA STATUTE 39.50, PUBLIC OFFICIAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, TO
PROVIDE REASONABLE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS
AND PUBLIC SERVANTS ON ALL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

WHEREAS, by statute, the findings and purpose for A.S. 39.50, *Public Official Financial Disclosure*, include making public offices attractive to citizens who are motivated to public service, and to develop accountability in government by permitting public access to information about those who seek and hold public office; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 APOC amendments and current disclosure requirements are unduly burdensome and have a chilling effect on those who seek public office or attain public office or appointment; and

WHEREAS, along with disclosure of the amount of income, the 2007 APOC amendments add disclosure of sources of income over \$1,000, thereby requiring all business owners to list how much money his/her business makes and to report the sources of income in detail such as salary, social security, interest, dividends, rental income and retirement money; and

WHEREAS, this detail as to the sources of income invades the privacy of those people doing business with the candidate, municipal official, or state official; and

WHEREAS, the disclosure of this detailed information is to be posted on the internet, and local municipal officials are concerned with enabling identity theft and invasion of privacy; and

WHEREAS, the resultant costs to Alaskan communities in the unavailability of citizens motivated to enter and remain in public service exceed the intended benefits, and enhance reasons for local governments to opt-out of APOC reporting altogether; and

WHEREAS, roughly half of Alaska's 200 plus communities are now exempt from A.S. 39.50, *Public Official Financial Disclosure*, while several other communities are either preparing ballot propositions to become exempt or are in the voting process to be exempt; and

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2 WHEREAS, efforts of the Alaska Municipal League may encourage the Alaska
3 Legislature to support financial disclosure by municipal officers with reasonable municipal
4 financial disclosure thresholds and requirements similar to those in place prior to the 2007
5 APOC amendments;

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7 NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly recognizes and resolves:

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9 1. Protecting the public interest and garnering the public confidence in municipal
10 officials are shared local concerns.

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12 2. Communities throughout the state are experiencing real hardships in recruiting
13 municipal officials due to the overbroad, unduly intrusive, and unreasonable 2007 APOC
14 amendments, passed in the aftermath of widely publicized state government corruption
15 cases.

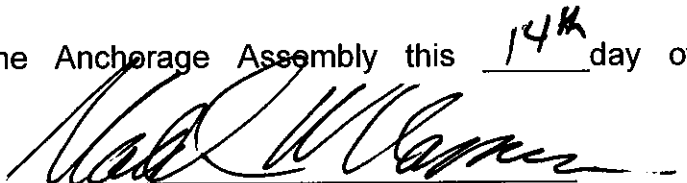
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17 3. Local governments have the duty and the ability to respond when citizens
18 present concerns and to be cognizant of how other communities resolve their affairs.

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20 4. The 2007 APOC amendments take a one-size fits all approach that does not
21 meet the needs of local government disclosure or the needs of boards and commissions.

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23 5. As evidenced by the mass exodus of communities to be exempt from A.S.
24 39.50, *Public Official Financial Disclosure*, the public confidence has spoken clearly to cast its
25 ballot for reasonable and alternative disclosure.

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27 6. On behalf of local communities, the Alaska Legislature must be encouraged to
28 balance the public's interest in disclosure with the privacy interest of an individual public
29 official by adopting reasonable disclosure requirements as recognized in AS 39.50.010.

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32 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 14th day of
33 October, 2008.

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36 Chair

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38 ATTEST:

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41 Municipal Clerk