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Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office

For reading: November 3, 2009

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date:

11-3-09

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2009-272

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY COMMENDING THE
SUCCESS OF THE DENA'INA CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER.**

WHEREAS, in April 2005 Anchorage voters approved an increase to Anchorage's hotel/motel bed tax in order to finance a new civic and convention center; and

WHEREAS, that approval followed the rejection of a similar proposal in 2002; and

WHEREAS, many skeptics of a new convention center contended it would never pay for itself, would be under-utilized and would increase property taxes on Anchorage citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly, the administration, the Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Convention Center YES Committee designed a financing plan that was sustainable and did not increase Anchorage property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center officially opened on October 18, 2008 – early and on-budget; and

WHEREAS, the name of the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center honors the first people of the Southcentral region of Alaska, the Dena'ina people; and

WHEREAS, construction of the \$111 Million Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center generated thousands of construction jobs in Anchorage, hundreds of new jobs in the visitor and convention industry and new jobs at the Center itself; and

WHEREAS, after a year in operation the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center has proven itself a wise investment and terrific addition to Anchorage's landscape, on target to generate \$2 Million more in sales than projected in 2005; and

WHEREAS, while the international recession has affected Alaska's visitor industry like most other industries, the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center remains a bright spot in Anchorage's economy, attracting 220,000 participants in events from Chamber of Commerce luncheons to the annual Alaska Federation of Natives convention; and

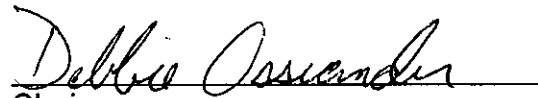
WHEREAS, as pledged by convention center promoters in 2005, construction and operation of the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center has not increased Anchorage property taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anchorage Assembly hereby commends all those involved in planning, campaigning for, designing, constructing and operating the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center, including former (and several current) Anchorage Assembly members, the Begich administration, ACVB, the Convention

Center YES Committee, SMG of Alaska, Anchorage's business community, organized labor, the Dena'ina people and Anchorage voters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly encourages ACVB to continue its excellent management of the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center so that it continues as the success story it is today.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 3rd day of November, 2009.


Chair

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk