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Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBER JOHNSTON AND

ASSEMBLY MEMBER BIRCH

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office For reading: February 2, 2010

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2010-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE ALASKA ZOO'S FUNDING REQUEST BEFORE THE TWENTY-SIXTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE FOR \$500,000.00 TO INITIATE THE POLAR BEAR EXPANSION PROJECT AND COMPLETE THE ZOO SIGNAGE PROJECT.

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Alaska Zoo celebrated its 40th Anniversary as a leader in Alaskan wildlife conservation, community education and recreation for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Zoo is a self-sustaining nonprofit with a 40 year history of providing orphaned, injured, and abandoned animals with a home and care; and

WHEREAS, in the last five years, federal and state wildlife authorities have placed 63 animals with the Alaska Zoo; and

WHEREAS, last year, more than 25,000 people participated in the rich array of educational programs on wildlife conservation at the Alaska Zoo; and

WHEREAS, a funding request of \$500,000.00 is pending before the Twenty-Sixth Alaska Legislature; and

WHEREAS, \$300,000.00 will provide funding towards Phase 1, the planning and design, of the Polar Bear Expansion Project; and

WHEREAS, the remaining \$200,000.00 will fund 28 new signs throughout the zoo as well as a new website design; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Zoo has \$37,000.00 in capital funds towards these projects and possibly another \$21,000.00 in matching funds;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage Assembly supports the Alaska Zoo's funding request and urges the Twenty-Sixth Alaska Legislature to approve \$500,000.00 in state funding for the Alaska Zoo's Polar Bear Expansion Project (Phase 1) and the Alaska Zoo Signage Project.

PASSED AND	APPROVED	by the	Anchorage	Assembly	this	2nd	_day	of
February, 2010.			The state of the s	199				
			Chair					

ATTEST:

Municipal Cler