Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBER HONEMAN,

ASSEMBLY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR; AND

ASSEMBLY MEMBER GUTIERREZ

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office For reading:

OCTOBER 26, 2010

APPROVED 10-26-10

CLERK'S OFFICE

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2010-316

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY ACKNOWLEDGING THE PRESENSE AND LIFE/SAFETY RISKS OF A DANGEROUS STREET DRUG. REQUESTING RETAILERS AND BUSINESSES IN ANCHORAGE TO VOLUNTARILY AND IMMEDIATELY REMOVE THESE DANGEROUS PRODUCTS FROM SALE, AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO BAN THESE DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES.

WHEREAS, a new dangerous street drug has made its way to Anchorage through marketing as incense known as Spice, Spike, or K2; and

WHEREAS, over the past six months, Municipality of Anchorage emergency responders and health care professionals have seen a marked increase in the presence of and use of Spice/K2 when responding to health emergencies; and

WHEREAS, recent examples within the Anchorage community where Spice/K2 substance abuse was found or determined to be a factor include:

- 3 Driving Under the Influence (DUI) instances
- A high school student hospitalized overnight
- A Search and Rescue for overdue hikers
- A traffic fatality Spice/K2 found in vehicle
- Possession in jails
- Use by drug treatment providers and clients

WHEREAS, although marketed as incense and currently legal for purchase in Alaska statewide, Spice/K2 is a plant based substance chemically treated with various synthetic psychoactive compounds, the effects of which have not been tested or regulated for human consumption and can have potentially fatal results; and

WHEREAS, people under the influence of Spice/K2 exhibit unpredictable and life threatening symptoms which include:

- Elevated blood pressure (140-210 / 100-110)
- Rapid heart rate (110-150bpm)
- Anxiety Paranoia
- Hallucinations (can be intense)
- Numbness Tingling
- Vomiting
- Tremors Seizures

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- Loss of consciousness
- Incoherent speech unstable actions,
- Withdrawal symptoms associated with addiction; and

WHEREAS, the presence and upward trend of Spice/K2 abuse in Anchorage was discussed during Mayor Dan Sullivan's weekly press conference on October 13, 2010; and

WHEREAS, during a press conference on October 19, 2010, Assembly Member Mike Gutierrez described Spice/K2 as significantly more dangerous than marijuana because a 14-year-old can walk into a convenience store and buy it; and

WHEREAS, Spice/K2 has been banned by the United States Armed Forces and is illegal in 10 states; and

WHEREAS, State Senator Kevin Meyer has pre-filed a bill with the Alaska State Legislature to criminally ban Spice/K2; and

WHEREAS, municipal leaders are in the process of drafting changes to local law to protect residents and criminally ban Spice/K2 in Anchorage;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

Section 1. Anchorage area retailers and businesses, as well as those statewide, are urged to voluntarily and immediately remove these dangerous and risk-inherent substances, known by various marketing and street names including Spice, Spike and K2, from sale immediately.

Section 2. The Anchorage Municipal Assembly supports efforts by state and local government leaders to criminally ban these risk-inherent products which have invaded our community.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 265 day of October_, 2010.

ATTEST:

 Souther & Journey 5
Municipal Clerk