CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

2-15-11

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS GRAY-JACKSON, DRUMMOND, BIRCH, FLYNN, GUTIERREZ, HALL, HONEMAN, JOHNSTON, OSSIANDER, STARR, TRAINI AND MAYOR SULLIVAN

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office

For reading: February 15, 2011

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2011–44

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING CONTRIBUTORS AND DONORS TO THE SIGN CAMPAIGN ON PEOPLE MOVER BUSES "PANHANDLING IS ILLEGAL. DONATE TO A LOCAL CHARITY INSTEAD."

WHEREAS, earlier this school year at Rogers Park Elementary, Mr. Huycke's 5th Grade class studied panhandling and sought solutions to this community issue. They listened to presentations by Bean's Café Executive Director James Crockett and an Anchorage Police Department officer, wrote a letter to the editor of the Anchorage Daily News, and volunteered at Bean's Café; and

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2010, Vanessa Duhrsen, Tabitha Wheeler and Seth De'Ath, three students from Mr. Huycke's class, appeared before the Anchorage Municipal Assembly and shared what the class learned about panhandling; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa Duhrsen reported that charities can really help homeless residents more so than money given directly to panhandlers; and

WHEREAS, Tabitha Wheeler noted that, since 2004, it is illegal to stand on the side of the road asking for money and for drivers to hand money through an open car window; Tabitha added that over the years residents have forgotten about this law; and

WHEREAS, Seth De'Ath explained that their mission is to help panhandlers in a productive way; Seth suggested that police trainees monitor day-to-day panhandling, that People Mover buses, overpasses, businesses, and neighborhoods display signs, and that letters to local newspapers discuss this community issue; and

WHEREAS, Vanessa Duhrsen ended their appearance with a plea for residents to volunteer at charities and to donate to charities instead of giving money directly to panhandlers; she called upon the Anchorage Municipal Assembly to spread that message throughout the community and to allow People Mover buses to advertise that message; and

WHEREAS, due to the eloquent appeals by these observant young residents and the interest of Mr. Huycke's 5th Grade class in this community issue, eight People Mover buses now proudly display bold signage stating: "Panhandling is illegal. Donate to a local charity instead.";

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly recognizes and appreciates the contributions of Mr. Huycke's 5th Grade class, the in-kind services of Municipality of Anchorage staff and Drummond Design, and the monetary donations from International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1264, Anchorage Police Department

Date:

Employees Association, Eberhardt Advertising and First National Bank Alaska, to educate the community on this issue.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 15th day of

February, 2011.

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ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk

Panhandling is Illegal.* * MOA Ordinance 24.80.015 Penalty/Fine: up to \$2,000 DONATE TO A LOCAL CHARITY INSTEAD. APDEA (Municipality of Archorage Auchorage Professional Fire Fightiers Local 1264 This message made possible by generous donations from: