

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS FLYNN, BIRCH,  
DRUMMOND, GRAY-JACKSON, HALL, HONEMAN,  
JOHNSTON, OSSIANDER, STARR, TRAINI AND TROMBLEY  
Prepared by: Assembly Counsel  
For reading: November 22, 2011

CLERK'S OFFICE  
**APPROVED**

Date: 11-22-11

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**  
**AR NO. 2011-326**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RESPECTFULLY  
SEEKING AND SUPPORTING SELECTION OF THE PORT OF ANCHORAGE BY THE  
HONORABLE RAY MABUS, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2012  
COMMISSIONING CEREMONY FOR THE USS ANCHORAGE.**

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WHEREAS, the USS Anchorage, currently under construction at Ingalls Shipbuilding facility in Avondale, Louisiana, is the seventh warship in the LPD 17 class of amphibious landing transport dock ships, and is scheduled to be completed in May 2012, with a Commissioning Ceremony in September 2012; and

WHEREAS, throughout Alaska, our residents are among the strongest supporters of the United States Military, and the greater communities of Anchorage and South Central Alaska have a long tradition of active support for, and positive interaction with our military active duty and retiree populations, boasting one of the highest percentage of military veterans per capita in the United States, five major military bases, and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson located in the heart of the Anchorage community; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, shall decide the location for the commissioning ceremony on December 9, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Anchorage, a Department of Defense-designated Strategic Commercial Seaport, has the honor of being the only Alaskan port included for consideration, along with other west coast ports seeking selection; and

WHEREAS, the rich and binding interrelationship between our National Defense Forces and the people of Anchorage, and indeed the people of Alaska itself, has played a critical role in our Nation's history and it will play a critical role in the Nation's future—especially with respect to the changing conditions and circumstances in the Arctic; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Anchorage, strategically serving nearly the entire state along with all five of Alaska's military bases, has all the logistical and other capabilities needed to protect the safety and assure success in the commissioning ceremony of the USS Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has the critical core of business, military, and civic organizations to attract and ensure financial viability; to provide award-winning hospitality to the influx of crew, family members, and other important officials for the weeklong event; and to bring the excitement and allegiance of local and state citizenry, guaranteeing robust participation in a memory-making, World Class Commissioning Ceremony; and

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2 WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has been honored to be the namesake city  
3 for this expeditionary warship, built to be mission flexible and combat ready; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage proudly welcomes the Navy's support and  
6 confidence,  
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8 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:  
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10 THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY SEEKS AND SUPPORTS THE SELECTION OF  
11 THE PORT OF ANCHORAGE FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2012 COMMISSIONING  
12 CEREMONY OF THE USS ANCHORAGE, ALLOWING COMMISSIONING TO TAKE  
13 PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY FOR WHICH THIS VESSEL HAS BEEN NAMED. TO GIVE  
14 ALASKA RESIDENTS THE CHANCE TO SHOW HOW PROUD THEY ARE TO HAVE  
15 ONE OF THE NAVY'S NEWEST SHIPS SO NAMED, AND JUST AS IMPORTANTLY, TO  
16 GIVE THE CREW, FAMILY MEMBERS, AND OTHER OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS THE  
17 CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE AND REMEMBER ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, THE  
18 NAMESAKE CITY OF THEIR UNITED STATES NAVAL VESSEL, IS A DECISION THE  
19 HONORABLE RAY MABUS, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, WILL NOT REGRET.  
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21 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of  
22 November, 2011.  
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25 Debbie Osseander  
26 Chair  
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29 ATTEST:  
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32 Brian E. Gundersen  
33 Municipal Clerk  
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