Submitted by: ASSEMBLY CHAIR TRAINI AND ASSEMBLY

MEMBER GRAY-JACKSON

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office

For reading: February 1, 2011

CLERK'S OFFICE APPROVED

2-1-11___

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA AR NO. 2011–38

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE ALASKA ZOO'S FUNDING REQUEST TO THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ALASKA LEGISLATURE FOR \$425,000.00 TO UPGRADE ITS VEHICLE FLEET AND COMPLETE THE ZOO SIGNAGE/GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS 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 one of the top tourist destinations in Alaska, with more than 158,000 people visiting the Alaska Zoo annually; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Zoo is a self-sustaining nonprofit with a 41-year history of providing orphaned, injured, and abandoned animals with a home and care; and

WHEREAS, each year, the Alaska Zoo raises more than \$2 MILLION in operational costs through admissions, rentals, programs and donations, exclusive of funding from any municipal, state, or federal entity; and

WHEREAS, by February 11, 2011, the Alaska Zoo will present a funding request of \$425,000.00 to the Twenty-Seventh Alaska Legislature; and

WHEREAS, \$151,000.00 will fund the Signage/Grounds Improvements Project for 39 new signs, to level the lawn area by the coffee shop and add a stage, to construct an awning over the zoo entrance stairs and provide an adjustable operating table for the animal infirmary; and

WHEREAS, the remaining \$274,000.00 will expand the Alaska Zoo's capabilities to maintain its facility and provide services by funding the Vehicles Project to upgrade the fleet of work vehicles, visitor and outreach vehicles; provide a new-used dump truck, a 4-wheeler with a bed, a track hoe and a zoom boom, a new 15-passenger vehicle for visitors, and a mid-size SUV or mini-van for educational outreach;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage Assembly supports the Alaska Zoo's funding request and urges the Twenty-Seventh Alaska Legislature to approve \$425,000.00 in state funding for the Alaska Zoo's Vehicles Project and Signage/Grounds Improvements Project.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this / standard day of Using Assembly 2011.

Chair

ATTEST:

Shlan 5 / mars Municipal Clerk