

CLERK'S OFFICE  
**APPROVED**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1-31-12

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
AR No. 2012-20

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING**  
2 **AND HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**  
3 **OF WILLIAM J. SHEFFIELD.**  
4

5 WHEREAS, former Governor and Port Director William "Bill" Sheffield began his  
6 career in Alaska in 1953 working as a salesman for Sears Roebuck eventually  
7 becoming the top salesman in the nation for three consecutive years; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, in 1958, Governor Sheffield opened his first hotel, the Anchorage Inn,  
10 the beginning of what would later become a chain of 19 hotels across Alaska and the  
11 Yukon Territory, employing more than 750 people; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, with his business success, Governor Sheffield was actively involved in  
14 various community organizations serving as President of the Alaska Visitors  
15 Association in 1968 and President of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce in  
16 1976; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, in 1975, he was a member of the Greater Anchorage Area Borough  
19 Charter Commission, which successfully developed the charter merging the Greater  
20 Anchorage Area Borough and the City of Anchorage, into what is now the  
21 Municipality of Anchorage; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, he was elected fifth Governor of Alaska in 1982; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, his term included many different accomplishments and challenges  
26 including a drastic cut in the State budget following a sharp decline in oil prices, the  
27 purchase of the Alaska Railroad; leading the way in opening the Red Dog Mine and a  
28 variety of additional transportation and infrastructure projects; and  
29

30 WHEREAS, many of the transportation projects completed during his term continue  
31 to serve Anchorage residents today; including the expansion of Minnesota Drive, the  
32 construction of 100<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the extension of Dimond Boulevard, and construction of  
33 the A/C couplet; and  
34

35 WHEREAS, his experience in Federal issues was recognized by President Clinton,  
36 who appointed him as Chair of the Federal Salary Council in 1994; and  
37

38 WHEREAS, Governor Sheffield continued to pursue his commitment, passion and  
39 knowledge of the transportation industry and was appointed Chairman of the Alaska  
40 Railroad Corporation Board of Directors in 1995 becoming CEO/President of the  
41 Railroad two years later; and  
42

1  
2  
3 WHEREAS, in recognition of his dedication to the Alaska Railroad and the state at-  
4 large, the Alaska Railroad Depot at the Ted Stevens International Airport was named  
5 after him in 1999; and  
6

7 WHEREAS, Governor Sheffield came out of an early retirement when he was  
8 appointed Director of the Port of Anchorage in 2001 by former Mayor George  
9 Wuerch; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, during his tenure as Port Director, he has worked diligently to address  
12 the ongoing challenge of deteriorated infrastructure while continuing to see an  
13 increase in tonnage, business and profits at Alaska's Port; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, Governor Sheffield advocates to State and Federal leaders, along with  
16 Alaskan residents, of the critical importance of infrastructure investments as a path  
17 for economic growth and security; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, he continues to use his experience to provide leadership and  
20 perspective for many Anchorage-based organizations and is a board member of the  
21 Alaska Railroad Corporation, ENSTAR, Alaska Pacific University, Charter College,  
22 and is a founding member of Commonwealth North; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, Governor Sheffield is widely recognized for his generous contributions to  
25 a variety of non-profit organizations including the March of Dimes, Special Olympics  
26 Alaska, Alaska Public Radio, the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center,  
27 Providence Alaska Medical Center, and Alaska Pacific University.  
28

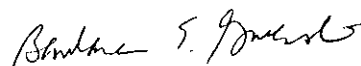
29 NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly resolves:  
30

31 That the Anchorage Municipal Assembly and Mayor Sullivan recognize Governor  
32 Sheffield's decade of service to the Municipality of Anchorage, and his many  
33 accomplishments and achievements benefiting both citizens of the State of Alaska  
34 and the Municipality of Anchorage during his 60 years of service.  
35

36 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 31<sup>st</sup> day of  
37 January, 2012.  
38  
39

40  
41   
42 Chair of the Assembly  
43

44 ATTEST:  
45

46   
47 Municipal Clerk