



ANB – ANS JUNEAU, ALASKA – September 2015

Resolution #15-02

Title: Requesting Fiscally Responsible Operating and Capital Budgets

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is abundant in resources, has resilient, strong people and a history of self-determination; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska enjoys vast sums of additional wealth in the form of Pension Funds, a Budget Reserve Fund and a Permanent Fund that amounts to \$95 Billion of financial value, most of which cannot be accessed by the normal legislative appropriation process and requires extraordinary leadership and resolve to manage; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska spends approximately \$5.5 Billion per year; and

WHEREAS, oil revenues have declined dramatically and instead of covering state expenditures and providing a savings we will need to spend approximately \$3.5 to \$4 Billion of our savings this year; and

WHEREAS, at the current rate of spending our savings account, which is approximately \$10 Billion, it will be depleted in 2.5 years;

WHEREAS, energy costs (average electricity is 4th highest among states; and, Total Energy Expenditures per capita at \$9,596 is the 2nd highest in the country) continue to challenge our families and households in all but a few select rural communities where substantial subsidies have disproportionately been invested in infrastructure with the promise of being a regional solution; and

WHEREAS, beneficiaries of our jobs, profits and wealth resources are disproportionately individuals and companies that are located outside of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is the law making body with power to establish public policy and authorize and amend budgets that should take into consideration the needs of Alaskans, appropriate monies, and fund programs in an equitable manner to all Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has been in the need of a fiscal plan to fund government functions that is sustainable and which provides for current and future generations of Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has cut spending significantly and in many cases to the bone; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature needs to look more closely to revenues received from all sources and look to a fair allocation of taxes immediately; and

WHEREAS, Alaskans need to be better informed and provide feedback to all incumbents and candidates for legislative office to ensure a legislative process that does not penalize mostly rural and historically underserved areas of Alaska as has occurred beginning in 1994 in all but 6 years during the coalition era.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANS Camp 2 and the ANB & ANS Camp 70, assembled in a joint meeting in September 2015, request that Grand Camp call for the Alaska Legislature to have an open, full and complete discussion of methods and means of addressing the State of Alaska fiscal breakdown to develop a strategic plan to include and address the following:

- State Income Tax;
- Use of deposits into the Alaska Permanent Fund's Dividend Fund and the State's Earnings Reserve Fund;
- Maintaining a stable and equitable tax (and subsidy) regime for all economic sectors of resource extraction which identifies and covers the cost of externalities such as negative environmental impacts;
- Improving and growing our federal/state/tribal relations with regards to social programs, health care to explore and brainstorm how to best meet essential community needs; and
- Maximizing federally funded infrastructure, through transportation and energy funding
 mechanisms and private investment necessary to provide access and low cost energy
 fundamentally necessary for economic development to develop and maintain our
 workforce.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, these ANB and ANS Camps encourage their members to work with individuals who understand the needs of all Alaskans, to develop a strategy and to identify and vote for candidates aligned with this strategy so that the next Legislature is comprised of Senators and Representatives best prepared to handle the fiscal crises that currently affect our State

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