

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Fenske, Welles, Yourkowski

RESOLUTION 99-34(A)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA OFFERING SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS, AS REVENUE ENHANCEMENTS FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR AND ENSUING FISCAL YEARS, TO THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO BRIDGE THE STATE'S FISCAL GAP.

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska currently experiences about \$1.2 billion in the difference between expected revenues and expenditures; and

WHEREAS, cuts alone cannot bridge the fiscal gap; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature and Governor Knowles have produced budgets that have cut the state budget; and

WHEREAS, a combination of cuts and flat funding have significantly changed the way every form of government in Alaska operates; and

WHEREAS, municipalities across the state including the City of Homer are facing abrupt 100% cuts to the Safe Communities Program; and

WHEREAS, these cuts would have dire consequences on the quality, types and amount of service the people in Homer enjoy and depend upon as well as impacts to the non profit pass through accounts; Kachemak Bay Family Planning, Cook Inlet Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Mental Health Program, South Peninsula Women's Services, Detente, Hospice of Homer, Homer Friendship Center and Senior Citizens' Center; and

WHEREAS, investments in Alaska, such as the Trans-Alaska Gas Pipeline, are vital to its long term economic health and should be pursued vigorously; and

WHEREAS, any new revenues adopted by this session would probably not be realized until the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, Alaskan children and continuing generations of Alaskans deserve a predictable, stable, and sustainable plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska offers specific suggestions, as revenue enhancements for the current fiscal year and ensuing fiscal years, to the Alaska State Legislature to bridge the state's fiscal gap as follows:

1. Make the Trans-Alaska Gas Pipeline happen, soon.

2. Appropriate funds from the Permanent fund Earnings Reserve and the Constitutional Budget Reserve to state operating expenses.
3. Allow the Alaska Permanent Fund dividend to float in relation to the price of oil and state general fund needs and cap the amount, if necessary.
4. Institute an increased automobile fuel tax and dedicate all auto fuel tax to repair and maintenance of roads.
5. Pass legislation currently pending (HB 92 or similar bill) authorizing municipalities to tax the sale of alcohol by ordinance.
6. Make the senior citizen's portion of the Senior Citizens' and Disabled Veterans' Property Tax Exemption Program a local option.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Homer City Council the following:

Section 1. That the Council realizes that it would take a great amount of political courage to enact the above measures and stands fully behind these suggestions and pledges cooperation with the Governor and the Legislature in achieving long term fiscal health for our state; and

Section 2. That a long range fiscal plan past the year 2010 be adopted in this legislative session that balances cuts with prudent use of savings accounts and new revenue sources; and

Section 3. That copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Tony Knowles, the South Central Delegation of the Alaska State Legislature, Senate President Drue Pearce, House Speaker Brian Porter, Senator John Torgerson and Representative Gail Phillips.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 10th day of May, 1999.

CITY OF HOMER


JACK CUSHING, MAYOR

ATTEST:


MARY L. CALHOUN, CMC/AEE, CITY CLERK

Fiscal impact: NA.

