

Introduced by: Dimmick  
Date: Jan. 6, 1981 Failed w/Reco  
Vote: 10 YES; 6 NO 1-20  
Action: ADOPTED

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 81-1

URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE ALASKA STATUTES TO ALLOW MUNICIPALITIES THE RIGHT TO AVOID RUNOFF ELECTIONS.

WHEREAS, Section 29.28.040 of the Alaska Statutes requires that a candidate for municipal office must receive in excess of 40% of the votes cast for his or her respective office or that the Assembly shall hold a runoff election; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that the statutory requirement for runoff elections results in unnecessary delays in the qualification of elected municipal officials and in the incursion of substantial additional expenses by both the Borough and the candidates; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly finds that runoff elections are characterized by very low voter turnout and that the results of such runoff elections are not likely to reflect the voters' true preference for municipal candidates;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the Assembly urges the Twelfth Alaska legislature, First Session, to amend AS 29.28.040 to allow municipalities to eliminate by ordinance the requirement that a municipal candidate must receive at least 40% of the votes cast for that particular office in order to avoid a runoff election and to provide further that any candidate for a particular office who receives a plurality of the votes cast for that particular office in the regular election shall be certified as the winner.

Section 2. That the Clerk shall serve a copy of this resolution upon the Honorable Jay S. Hammond, Governor of

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Alaska, upon the President of the State Senate, upon the Speaker of the State House, upon the Honorable Donald E. Gilman, State Senator and upon the Honorables Bette Cato, Hugh Malone and Pat O'Connell, State Representatives.

Section 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
ON THIS 20 DAY OF January, 1981.

Paul Fischer  
Paul Fischer, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Frances Brymer  
Borough Clerk