

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: Feb. 15, 1983
Vote: Unanimous
Action: Adopted as amended .

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 83-42

REQUESTING WITHDRAWAL OF SENATE BILL 29.

WHEREAS, AS 29.23.310, AS 29.23.340 (b), AS 29.28.020 (a), AS 29.78.010 (14), AS 29.26.040, and AS 29.71.800 (20) all provide for regular municipal elections to be held on the first Tuesday of October or on a different date which may be provided by ordinance or charter; and

WHEREAS, practically all of municipalities of this state are geared for holding elections at that time and all of their ordinances and procedures are set on that basis; and

WHEREAS, all of the statutes in question allow a municipality to change the date of election if they choose to do so by ordinance or by charter modification; and

WHEREAS, SB 29 has been introduced in the First Session of the Thirteenth Legislature which would change the municipal election date to the first Tuesday in May and would remove the authority for local governing bodies to change that date; and

WHEREAS, the policy of the State should be to allow as much local autonomy as possible to local municipal governments so that each can operate efficiently in response to the desires of their citizens; and

WHEREAS, the affect of the changes in SB 29 would be to extend the present political season from June 1 to the first Tuesday in November to a period beginning in March to the first Tuesday in November; and

WHEREAS, municipalities which are on a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year have primary concerns in April, May, and June concerning the establishment of budgets for the following fiscal year which require many involved sessions of the legislative body as well as administrative staff, and boroughs are also occupied with budgets of the school districts during this period; and

WHEREAS, electing new members to take their place on municipal governing bodies in late May or early June would place decisions regarding the next year's budget on new members of the assemblies or councils who had no past budgetary experience and who had no part in studying and developing the budget in question; and

WHEREAS, passage of this act would be a tremendous and traumatic detriment to municipal governments throughout the State;

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

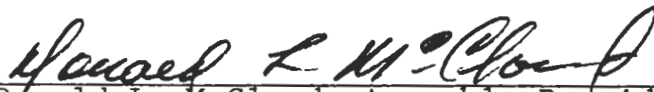
Section 1. That the Assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough hereby respectfully requests Senator V. Fischer to withdraw Senate Bill No. 29 from consideration of the Senate.

Section 2. That in the event Senator V. Fischer does not withdraw SB 29 that the legislative delegation representing various parts of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and all other legislators from the State be requested and encouraged to defeat SB 29 in order that the date of municipal elections may be left in the control of the various municipal legislative bodies as is currently provided by statute.

Section 3. That in the event the Legislature passes SB 29, the Governor of Alaska is hereby requested and urged to veto said bill on the grounds that it would be detrimental to the municipalities of the State and their governmental functions.

Section 4. That immediately on adoption of this resolution, the Clerk of the Kenai Peninsula Borough is directed to mail copies thereof to Governor William J. Sheffield, to all legislators of the State of Alaska, to the executive director of the Alaska Municipal League, and to the appropriate official in every municipality within the State.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS 15 DAY OF February, 1983.


Donald L. McCloud, Assembly President

ATTEST:


Borough Clerk