

Introduced by: Scalzi, Glick,
Navarre, Brown
Date: 5/16/95
Action: Adopted
Vote: Unanimous

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 95-026**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE
THE UNIQUENESS OF ALASKA'S WETLANDS AND INCREASE THE STATUTORY
FLEXIBILITY ON WETLANDS USE IN ALASKA**

WHEREAS, the expansion of regulations governing wetlands by federal agencies exceeds what Congress intended when it enacted the federal Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS, Alaska contains more wetlands than all other states combined; and

WHEREAS, approximately 98% of all Alaska communities, including 200 of 209 remote villages in Alaska, are located in or adjacent to wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of wetlands regulations have placed an increasing and unnecessary burden on private landowners, native organizations, and local and state governments by inhibiting reasonable community growth, with negligible benefit to the environment; and

WHEREAS, 68% of Alaska's wetlands are publicly owned, only 26% of wetlands in the contiguous 48 states are in public ownership; and

WHEREAS, more than 60,000,000 acres of Alaska's wetlands are known to be conserved in some form of lands designation, such as federally designated wilderness land, federal parks and refuge land, and state park and refuge land, that restrict utilization or degradation of wetlands;

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

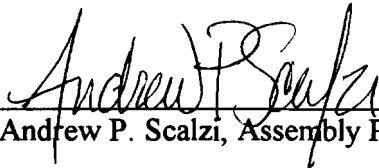
SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly respectfully requests the United States Congress to recognize the uniqueness of wetlands in Alaska and exclude Alaska from a "no net loss policy".

SECTION 2. That the Assembly also requests the United States Congress to provide flexibility in permitting commensurate with the large amount of wetlands set aside in Alaska and

the low historic rate of wetlands loss in Alaska.

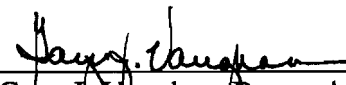
SECTION 3. That copies of this resolution be sent to President Bill Clinton, Senators Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski and Congressman Don Young.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 16th DAY OF MAY, 1995.



Andrew P. Scalzi, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Gaye J. Maughan, Borough Clerk