Introduced Scalzi, Drathman,

Navarre

Date: Action: 5/21/96 Adopted

Vote:

7 yes, 1 no

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 96-046

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF KACHEMAK BAY AS A SITE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE

- WHEREAS, Kachemak Bay has high natural resource values, biodiversity and is a unique estuarine ecosystem located in lower Cook Inlet; and
- WHEREAS, the Bay supports commercial uses and activities and is also world renown as a popular recreational area; and
- WHEREAS, Kachemak Bay and Fox River Flats are a State Critical Habitat Area; and
- WHEREAS, the watershed for the Bay includes Kachemak Bay State Park and Wilderness area, the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, the Anchor Point Fritz Creek Critical Habitat area and the Cities of Homer, Kachemak and Seldovia; and
- WHEREAS, there are a number of excellent existing educational programs providing opportunities to understand the coastal habitat; and
- **WHEREAS,** planning, management and research exists and continues by individuals, private and corporate entities, local, state and federal government agencies. However, no comprehensive program exists to develop partnerships to protect the estuarine ecosystem;

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

- **SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports protection and encourages cooperative management of coastal areas and resources.
- **SECTION 2.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough encourages the Site Selection Committee, Governor Knowles and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to select Kachemak Bay as the site for a National Estuarine Research Reserve.

SECTION 3. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Kachemak Bay Nomination Group, the NERR Site Selection Committee, Governor Knowles and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SECTION 4. This resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF MAY, 1996.

Andrew P. Scalzi, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Gaye J. Vaughan, Borough Clerk