

Introduced by: O'Brien
Date: March 17, 1998
Action: Adopted
Vote: Unanimous

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 98-016**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED EDUCATIONAL FUNDING IN
ALASKA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND ENCOURAGING THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE
TO PROVIDE AN INCREASE IN THE SCHOOL FOUNDATION FORMULA**

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District have the responsibility of providing fair and equal education to all children on the Kenai Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District has undertaken 10 years of fiscal responsibility by reducing expenditures, renegotiating salaries, cutting staff and programs and otherwise shrinking its budget; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough is being compelled to cut another \$2.6 million from the 1998-99 budget and to request borough funding outside the maximum local contribution stipulated by the state; and

WHEREAS, state contributions to education since 1987 have not kept pace with inflation; and

WHEREAS, the state has failed to recognize the extra costs in transportation, utilities, supplies and other categories in our region by only compensating the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District at the same rate as the Anchorage School District, causing a reduction in services; and

WHEREAS, increased teacher-student ratio, crowded classrooms, aging buildings and cuts in staffing and programs experienced in the Kenai Peninsula Borough as a whole, combine to decrease the quality of education; and

WHEREAS, a quality education for today's students should be the first priority in ensuring the stability and success of our future.

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

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Borough Assembly supports the current efforts by the Alaska State Legislature to rewrite the education funding formula so that it more equitably distributes funding and support to all districts.

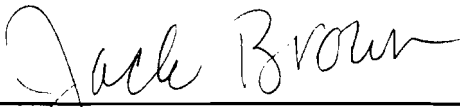
SECTION 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough strongly supports the placing of additional funds into education and strongly supports inflation proofing the education funding formula.

SECTION 3. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports the legislature's utilization of the evidence supplied in the McDowell Report, simplified funding, and providing seventy percent of all effort be used in the classroom.

SECTION 4. That a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to members of the state legislature and to Governor Tony Knowles.

SECTION 5. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 17th DAY OF MARCH, 1998.



Jack Brown, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

