

Introduced by: Superman
Date: 04/01/03
Action: Adopted
Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2003-035**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL 136 AND SIMILAR
LEGISLATION WHICH RAISES THE CURRENT OPTIONAL RESIDENTIAL TAX
EXEMPTION FROM \$10,000 TO \$50,000**

WHEREAS, AS 29.45.050 authorizes municipalities to implement various property tax exemptions; and

WHEREAS, the \$10,000 maximum residential property exemption authorized by AS 29.45.050(a) has remained unchanged since 1974; and

WHEREAS, of the five Alaska municipalities offering this tax exemption, the Kenai Peninsula Borough is the only one to also levy a sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the two percent sales tax levied by the Kenai Peninsula Borough has kept the mill rate to a minimum, thus allowing the State to retain a greater share of the AS 43.56 (Oil and Gas Property) revenues; and

WHEREAS, in October 2002, the voters of the Kenai Peninsula Borough defeated a ballot proposition that would have exempted food from sales tax; and

WHEREAS, over the last decade, property owners have seen a substantial rise in assessed valuations, thereby increasing their tax bills by fifty to one hundred percent in some areas; and

WHEREAS, an increase in the Residential Property Tax Exemption will minimally affect state revenues and should be left to the discretion of the local governing body; and

WHEREAS, a minimal and stable tax rate is a primary factor in residential and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly has identified an increase in residential property tax exemptions as one of its 2003 legislative priorities; and

WHEREAS, SB 136 and similar legislation will provide a discretionary tax relief mechanism that will benefit bonafide full time residential homeowners;

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

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly urges the 23rd Alaska State Legislature to enact SB 136, increasing the optional residential property exemption from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

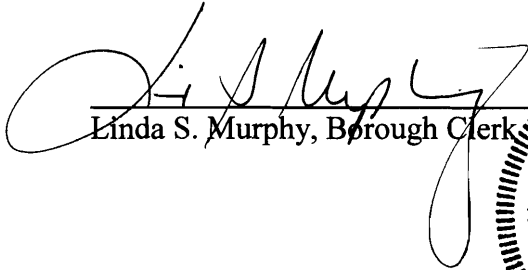
SECTION 2. That copies of this resolution shall be provided to Senators Con Bunde, Georgiana Lincoln, Gary Stevens and Tom Wagoner, and to Representatives Mike Chenault, Mike Hawker, Carl Morgan, Paul Seaton and Kelly Wolf.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 2003.


Pete Sprague, Assembly President

ATTEST:


Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

