

Introduced by: Superman
Date: 08/19/03
Action: Postponed until 09/02/03
Action: Postponed until 02/03/04
Action: Postponed until 02/17/04
Action: Tabled
Vote: 8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2003-094**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CS FOR HB 240 AND SB 186, ACTS RELATING TO
CHARITABLE GAMING THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC
GAMING MACHINES (EGM) IN THE STATE OF ALASKA**

WHEREAS, municipalities have and will continue to suffer various revenue sharing cuts from both the state and federal governments; and

WHEREAS, these decreases inevitably equate to a greater tax burden for local taxpayers, especially property taxes; and

WHEREAS, property taxes are the most damaging for economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough does support a balanced long range revenue and spending plan as a priority; legislative implementation of this plan must also consider all mechanisms that could mitigate the effects of deteriorating historic revenue streams to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, electronic gaming legislation would provide a new revenue stream to the state, licensees and charities of \$50 - \$80 Million each, municipalities would receive a 10 percent share of the annual statewide revenue (\$18-\$25 Million); and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough would realize \$2,000,000 - \$3,000,000 from this new revenue stream; and

WHEREAS, every state in the union except Hawaii and Utah has some form of legalized gaming; and

WHEREAS, charitable gaming's use of pull tabs was legalized by statute in 1988; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the combined gross receipts for charitable gaming were \$351,000,000; and

WHEREAS, charitable, civic, service, educational, fraternal and native organizations; municipalities; veterans; trade associations; police and fire departments and religious groups utilize existing gaming regulations to help fund operations and social programs which are a viable needed component of Alaska's economy; and

WHEREAS, these organizations' abilities to self sustain relieves funding pressure on the municipalities; and

WHEREAS, many nonprofits and municipalities are struggling and revenues are down; and

WHEREAS, Governor Murkowski, in his transmittal letter requesting action on HB 169, (An Act Increasing the Amount of Revenue received by the State from Charitable Gaming Activities) recognizes gaming as a potential new revenue stream;

WHEREAS, passage of this act alone would negatively affect charitable activities and does not address a new revenue sharing mechanism to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, today's gaming technology will provide enhanced accountability and security with little reporting requirements, virtually assuring correct dispensation to the state, municipalities, permittees and vendors;

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

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the legalization of Electronic Gaming Machines as conceptually found in CS for HB 240 and SB 186.

SECTION 2. Copies of this resolution shall be distributed to Senators Con Bunde, Georgiana Lincoln, Gary Stevens and Tom Wagoner; Representatives Mike Chenault, Mike Hawker, Carl Morgan, Paul Seaton and Kelly Wolf; Speaker of the House Pete Kott; Senate President Gene Therriault; House Finance Chairs John Harris and Bill Williams; Senate Finance Chairs Lyda Green and Gary Wilken; and House Labor and Commerce Chair Tom Anderson.

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

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS * DAY OF *, 2004.

Pete Sprague, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk