

Introduced by: Merkes
Date: 04/04/00
Action: Adopted as Amended
Vote: 7 Yes, 2 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2000-027**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE HEAD START PROGRAM AND THE CONCEPT
OF A GRANT THROUGH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO HELP FUND HEAD START**

WHEREAS, the Head Start program is a comprehensive child development program designed to educate and prepare children to enter school; and

WHEREAS, eligible children include those from qualifying low-income families and disabled children, and 10 percent of the enrollment may be above the low-income guideline; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides 80 percent funding for Head Start programs with the remaining 20 percent funding provided by local and state sources; and

WHEREAS, Head Start programs are currently operating in Seward, Homer, and Kenai; and

WHEREAS, members of the Sterling community have been working for over a year to begin a Head Start program in Sterling which currently has at least 40 eligible children; and

WHEREAS, the annual operating expenses for Head Start programs throughout the Peninsula including Seward, Kenai, Homer, Sterling, Seldovia, Port Graham, Nanwalek, and Tyonek are estimated at approximately \$1.3M per year; and

WHEREAS, the federal government will pay 80 percent of that funding, leaving a remaining balance of \$180,000; and

WHEREAS, the borough and school district would receive long-term benefits from supporting the Head Start program by better integrating and preparing children for school, reducing their long term educational costs, and better preparing them for adult life on the Peninsula; and

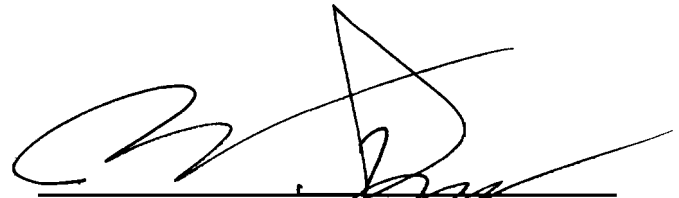
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI
PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

SECTION 1. That the assembly supports the Head Start programs in our communities.

SECTION 2. That the assembly supports the concept of annually providing funds to the school district as a pass-through grant of up to \$100,000 of the annual operating expenses for Head Start programs as a part of the annual budget process. It is anticipated that this funding will be distributed amongst each program on the Peninsula in accordance with the number of children approved to be served.

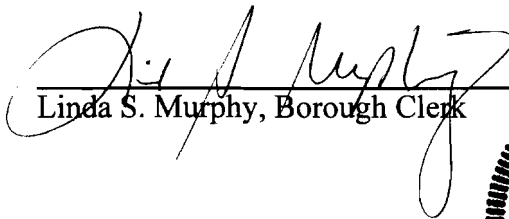
SECTION 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 4TH DAY OF APRIL, 2000.



William Popp, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Linda S. Murphy, Borough Clerk

