

1 By: Bryce J. Ward, Mayor
2 Introduced: 03/12/2020
3 Defeated: 03/12/2020
4 Immediate
5 Reconsideration Failed: 03/12/2020
6 Defeated: 03/12/2020
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8 FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

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10 RESOLUTION NO. 2020 – 16

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12 A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RAISING STATE REVENUES TO BE USED FOR ALASKA
13 PUBLIC EDUCATION FUNDING

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15 WHEREAS, The State Alaska has faced an operating budget deficit for the
16 last several years as traditional State revenues have been less than budgeted
17 expenditures; and

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19 WHEREAS, Senate Bill 50 proposes to re-instate a head tax of \$30 annual
20 per individual with employment from an income source in Alaska, where if enacted would
21 create approximately \$13 million in additional State revenues to be used for Alaska public
22 education facilities, maintenance, and construction; and

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24 WHEREAS, Due to State revenue shortfalls and a growing fiscal gap, local
25 municipalities have shouldered additional financial responsibility for school bond debt due
26 to the Alaska Legislature not budgeting for reimbursement at the levels agreed to when
27 the bonding was approved; and

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29 WHEREAS, Due to a diminished State capital budget, there is a growing
30 maintenance and construction need of Alaska’s education facilities; and

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32 WHEREAS, An additional \$13 million annual revenue will help address and
33 slow the growing maintenance and construction needs of Alaska’s educational facilities;
34 and

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36 WHEREAS, The Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly adopted Resolution
37 2019-42, which supports the creation of new broad-based taxes designed to increase
38 state revenue; and

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40 WHEREAS, Article 7 of the Alaska State Constitution identifies the State as
41 being constitutionally responsible for public education; and

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43 WHEREAS, Quality education is the pillar of a strong State and economy;
44 and

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WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the State to ensure public education facilities are safe and functional; and

WHEREAS, Unlike the mandatory local education contribution required only by Boroughs, the proposed school head tax would be paid by all individuals employed in the state; and

WHEREAS, The Fairbanks North Star Borough is a member of the Alaska Municipal League, which provided supportive comments to the proposed approach to addressing increasing financial needs of Alaska public education facilities; and

WHEREAS, Re-establishing a school head tax to be used for Alaska public education facilities, maintenance, and construction is part of a long-term fiscal plan for the State to meet the needs of residents and communities while addressing the fiscal gap.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the Fairbanks North Star Borough supports broad based efforts to increase State revenues to be used for Alaska public education funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be sent to the Alaska State Legislature and the appropriate legislative committees reviewing this effort, the Interior Delegation, and to Governor Michael Dunleavy.

ADOPTED THE ____ DAY OF MARCH 2020.

{DEFEATED}

Christopher Quist
Deputy Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

{DEFEATED}

April Trickey, CMC
Borough Clerk

Yeses: Sanford, O’Neill, Lyke, Quist
Noes: Tomaszewski, Cash, Lojewski
Other: Williams (Excused), Cooper (Excused)