## CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-10**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA URGING SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM (SEARHC) TO CONSIDER RE-ESTABLISHING A MEDICARE CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH CARE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Sitka has had a Medicare Certified Home Health Care Department for over 35 years; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of Sitkans and their families have benefited from comprehensive Medicare Certified Home Health Care allowing patients to remain at home during the last years of their lives; and

WHEREAS, Medicare Certified Home Health Care is covered 100% by Medicare; and

WHEREAS, SEARHC closed their Medicare Certified Home Health Care Department on September 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka recognizes the long and beneficial relationship between SEARHC and the community of Sitka, and Southeast Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly recognizes the autonomy of SEARHC; and

WHEREAS, there has been strong public outreach in the community by many people requesting SEARHC restore the Medicare Certified Home Health Care services, and recognizing that health care services are about serving those who need it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, hereby respectfully requests that SEARHC consider re-establishing a Medicare Certified Home Health Care Department, by convening and engaging with the public, and local stakeholders in Sitka's health. We recognize that SEARHC is independent, but desire that SEARHC seek out genuine public engagement.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

Kevin Mosher, Deputy Mayor

ATTEST:

Sara Peterson, MMC Municipal Clerk

1st and final reading: 4/9/2024

Sponsors: Mosher / Pike