

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2011-11 on first and final reading.

RESOLUTION 2011-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA ASSEMBLY REQUESTING THE ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD TO MAINTAIN CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA AND OTHER SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMUNITIES IN TWO CONTIGUOUS SOUTHEAST ALASKA SENATE DISTRICTS COMPRISED OF THE FOUR PROPOSED SOUTHEAST HOUSE DISTRICTS TO MAINTAIN THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGION

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Sitka strongly supports keeping the Sitka Borough intact and uniting with other components of our Southeast Alaska region to meet Redistricting requirements, in order to preserve our socio-economic, cultural, and historical ties within the Southeast Region, and

WHEREAS, City and Borough of Sitka strongly supports creating two Southeast Alaska Senate Districts out of the four proposed House Districts within contiguous Southeast Alaska to meet redistricting requirements by forming the most contiguous and compact territory containing as nearly as practicable a relatively integrated socio-economic area, which meets Article VI, Section 6 intent of the revisions to the Alaska Constitution: "Each senate district shall be composed as near as practicable of two contiguous house districts". Sitka's Senate District would be composed of House District 1, which includes Ketchikan and other smaller Southeastern communities, and House District 5, which includes Sitka and smaller Southeastern communities, and a second Senate District composed of House District 3 and 4, composed of Juneau and smaller communities in northern Southeast Alaska. All these proposed House and Senate Districts are inter-related and integrated as to their social, cultural, and economic activities; and

WHEREAS, forcing Southeast communities to be included in Northern Alaska districts completely unrelated to Southeast Alaska's integrated socio-economic area, local government boundaries, and geographic connectivity, is counter to the Alaska Constitution, which states that Senate districts should be as contiguous as practicable, especially since it is practicable to develop two Senate districts based on the four House districts proposed for the Southeast Region, and Southeast Alaska has vastly different economies, cultural and family ties, Native populations, and regional interests than northern communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly strongly requests the Redistricting Board devise a Redistricting Plan that permits Southeast Alaska to be represented by Southeast Alaska residents representing four Southeastern House Districts and two Southeastern Senate Districts, as detailed above, as by far the most contiguous, appropriate, directly related and practicable solution to Southeast Alaska's redistricting.

Adopted by a duly-constituted quorum of the City and Borough of Sitka Assembly on the 26th day of April, 2011.

Cheryl Westover, Mayor

ATTEST:

Colleen Ingman, MMC
Municipal Clerk