



CITY OF WASILLA

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REQUESTED BY: COUNCIL
PREPARED BY: CLERK'S OFFICE

RESOLUTION NO. WR94-77

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WASILLA, ALASKA OPPOSING UNFUNDED STATE MANDATES AND CALLING UPON GOVERNOR KNOWLES AND THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA TO REFRAIN FROM PASSING MANDATES WITHOUT ADEQUATE FUTURE FUNDING.

WHEREAS, unfunded state mandates on state and local governments have increased significantly in recent years; and

WHEREAS, mandates imposed on local governments by the legislature have been imposed often with the promise of financial support for the costs of compliance, but which later remain unfunded, and

WHEREAS, state mandates require local governments to perform duties without consideration of local circumstances or capacity; and

WHEREAS, state mandates require compliance regardless of other pressing local needs and priorities affecting the health, welfare, and safety of municipal citizens; and

WHEREAS, excessive state burdens on local governments force some combination of higher local taxes and fees or reduce local services to citizens and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, state mandates are too often inflexible, "one-size-fits-all" requirements that impose unrealistic time frames and specify procedures or facilities when less costly alternatives might be just as effective; and

WHEREAS, the inflexibility of state mandates, lack of applicability to local situations, and excessive cost are particular problems in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, existing mandates impose harsh pressures on local budgets and the state legislature has imposed a freeze upon funding to help compensate for any new mandates; and

WHEREAS, the effect of statutory mandates is often worsened by regulations, administrative rules and court decisions; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative effect of these legislative and regulatory actions has a direct negative impact on the citizens of Alaska's municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Municipal League, National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, International City/County Management Association, and other groups of state and local government representatives have begun a national public education campaign to help citizens understand and then reduce the burden and inflexibility of unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, some Legislative leaders are beginning to understand the burden placed on local governments by unfunded state mandates, but no legislation has yet passed to limit such mandates;

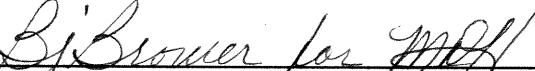
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Wasilla urges Governor Knowles, the legislature of the State of Alaska, and the judiciary to declare and honor a halt to further mandates, whether by statute, judicial fiat, or administrative regulation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Wasilla shall work with members of the Alaskan Legislative delegation to inform them about the impact of state mandates and actions necessary to reduce their burden on Alaskan citizens; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Wasilla urges each municipal official to help inform the public as well as state elected and appointed officials about the burden placed on Alaskan local governments by unfunded state mandates.

I certify that a resolution in substantially the above form was passed by a majority of those voting at a duly called and conducted meeting of the governing body of the City of Wasilla this 12th day of December, 1994.

ATTEST:



Marjorie D. Harris, CMC
City Clerk



John C. Stein, Mayor

(Seal)