



**Section 4. Election of Commissioners.** At the same election, the qualified voters of the City of Wasilla shall elect seven Charter Commission Members from candidates who have been nominated in accord with AS 29.10.040. At this election, a voter may vote for not more than seven candidates.

**Section 5. Charter Commission Candidates.** A Charter Commission candidate is nominated by a petition signed by at least 50 registered voters of the city. Nominating petitions must be filed with the city clerk between July 17 and July 28, 2000 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Section 6. Qualification of Charter Commission Candidate.** A Charter Commission candidate must have been a qualified voter in the city for at least one-year immediately preceding the Charter Commission election.

**Section 7. Seven Nominations Required.** If at least seven nominations for a qualified charter commission candidates are not filed, this ordinance is void and this election will not be held.

**Section 8. Effect of Voter Approval or Rejection.** If the proposition is approved by the voters, then the seven candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall immediately organize as a charter commission. If the proposition is not approved by the voters, the election of commissioners shall have no effect.

**Section 9. Effective date.** This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption of the Wasilla City Council.

SUBJECT: Home Rule

REQUESTED BY: Administration

PREPARED BY: Administration

DATE: May 16, 2000

FOR AGENDA OF: May 22, 2000

**SUMMARY:**

Please see attached. This is being submitted at this time in order to meet the election deadline.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** For review.

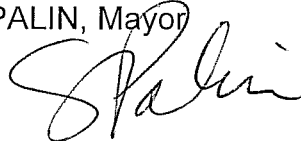
**FISCAL IMPACT**  No  Yes, amount requested:

Fund:

**MAYOR REVIEW/COMMENT:**

*We have time to discuss this — I do want to make Council aware of the election deadline however, so proper consideration can be made on the Home Rule issue.*

Reviewed by: SARAH PALIN, Mayor



**VIA FAX 907-373-9096**  
**Original Delivered**

June 6, 2000

Mayor Sarah Palin and Council Members  
City of Wasilla  
290 East Herning Avenue  
Wasilla AK 99654-7091

Re: Advantages of Home Rule

Dear Mayor Palin and Council Members,

At the next two council meetings, the council members will be considering whether to submit to the voters of Wasilla the question of whether the City should prepare a home rule charter for consideration by the Wasilla voters at a subsequent election. I requested that Dan Bockhorst from the Local Boundary Commission prepare a summary comparison of home rule versus general law powers for your information. I would also like to add my own observations.

The following factors are important to the Council's consideration:

- \* A Home Rule city has all legislative powers not prohibited by law or charter. A first class city has only those legislative powers conferred on it by the State.
- \* Under Home Rule, Wasilla has the greatest power to determine its own future destiny.
- \* Under Home Rule, control of the government and laws of Wasilla are local to the greatest extent possible under Alaska and federal law.
- \* Under Home Rule, Wasilla would not be subject to the limitations placed on general law cities by Title 29 of the Alaska Statutes, and would be able to enact its own laws which could be closely tailored to fit local conditions.
- \* Under Home Rule, the voters of Wasilla could either limit or extend the powers of local government beyond those boundaries authorized for general law cities under Title 29.
- \* Under Home Rule, Wasilla would be in a stronger position in dealing with the Borough and the State in many areas of their dealings. Potentially, the City could limit the levy of Borough taxes and Borough control of property development in the City, and other Borough involvement in City matters.

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\* As a Home Rule city, Wasilla would be in a better position to react to and deal with amendments to State law which take place in the future.

Mr. Bockhorst has given some examples of these points in his memorandum.

Home Rule will require a greater commitment by the City, particularly initially. I believe that the City ultimately will benefit, however, because control will be more local, and the City will be much more responsible for its local government, laws and destiny. Local government should be controlled locally, and the City of Wasilla should not rely on the State of Alaska to provide Wasilla's laws and circumscribe Wasilla's powers.

If you have any particular questions, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

KENNETH P. JACOBUS, P.C.

By

  
Kenneth P. Jacobus

KPJ:me