



## **CITY OF WASILLA**

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REQUESTED BY: S. STERLING  
Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly  
PREPARED BY: CLERK'S OFFICE

### **RESOLUTION NO. WR96-25**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WASILLA, ALASKA ADDRESSING THE NEED TO REFORM LOCAL GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH.**

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 1, of the Alaska State Constitution, provides for maximum local self-governance with a minimum of local government units, and prevention of duplication of tax-levying jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, as of 1996 there exists four tax-levying jurisdictions within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, namely, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the cities of Wasilla, Palmer, and Houston, and the population of the borough is approximately 51,000 persons; and

WHEREAS, the local governments of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough face steadily increasing demands from a growing population for public services such as education, public safety, transportation, and recreation while financial support from the federal and state governments is steadily declining; and

WHEREAS, the existing legal, political, and fiscal relationships between and among the four local governments of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and the proliferation of road and fire service areas, unnecessarily fosters duplication of services, inconsistent tax laws, and delayed infrastructure development; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to find ways and means to eliminate duplication of services, inconsistent tax laws, and delayed infrastructure development and to take advantage of advancements in modern communications and information technology, without sacrificing democratic values;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Wasilla Council hereby encourages the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly to authorize the manager of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to work with the cities on setting up a task force on how to reform local government structures, relationships and functions within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Wasilla Council encourages the joint sponsorship and financing of a task force on how to reform local government structures by the cities of Palmer, Wasilla and Houston, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the State of Alaska, Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

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 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1996.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



MARJORIE D. HARRIS, CMC  
City Clerk



JOHN C. STEIN, Mayor

(SEAL)