

Introduced by: Hibbert, Bjorkman
Date: 04/21/20
Action: Adopted as Amended
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2020-030**

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS OF THE STATE LEADERSHIP AND ALASKAN RESIDENTS TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 AND ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNOR TO PROCURE SUFFICIENT COVID-19 TESTING SO HE CAN RESCIND OR MODIFY COVID-19 HEALTH MANDATES 003: STATE WIDE CLOSURE RESTAURANTS, BARS, ENTERTAINMENT, 009: PERSONAL CARE SERVICES AND GATHERINGS AND 012: INTRASTATE TRAVEL, AS SOON AS REASONABLY PRACTICAL

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus originated in Hubei province in China, with the first confirmed case occurring on November 17, 2019; and,

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the United States of America had its first confirmed case of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020 the World Health Organization declared a public health emergency of international concern due the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, with 2,700 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, President Donald Trump declared a U.S. national emergency and,

WHEREAS, as of April 7, 2020, the United States had 400,335 confirmed cases of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the State of Alaska had its first confirmed case of COVID -19; and,

WHEREAS, in response to the confirmed presence of COVID-19 in the State of Alaska and to prevent or slow the spread of the Disease Governor Mike Dunleavy issued his first public health mandate on March 13, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, between March 16, 2020 and March 27, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued 11 additional health mandates, all in an effort to "flatten the curve" and reduce the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases to a level that would not overwhelm the health care infrastructure of the State; and

WHEREAS, because of the early and aggressive action by the Governor and the cooperation of Alaskan residents, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the state has remained low with 321 cases confirmed as of April 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the health mandates issued by the Governor are some of the most aggressive measures limiting virus exposure amongst the states: and

WHEREAS, the continued closure of businesses is impacting all Alaskans, resulting in a significant loss of jobs, business failures, and the loss of important sales tax revenues to municipalities jeopardizing essential services; and,

WHEREAS, reducing intrastate travel limitations and mandatory closure of certain businesses as soon as reasonably practical will allow many businesses to reopen, employees to return to work and residents to receive services; and,

WHEREAS, reduction of these limitations can be paired with continued implementation of other health mandates as necessary to continue protecting public health and safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:


SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly respectfully encourages the Governor to procure sufficient COVID-19 testing so he can rescind or modify COVID-19 health mandates 003: State wide closure restaurants, bars, entertainment, 009: personal care services and gatherings and 012: intrastate travel, as soon as reasonably practical to allow Alaskan businesses to resume operations, employees to return to work and residents to receive services in a safe manner observing social distancing requirements.

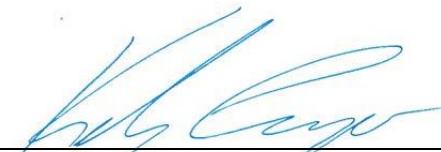
SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Dunleavy and all Kenai Peninsula Borough legislators.

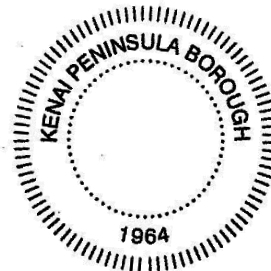
SECTION 3. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF APRIL, 2020.

ATTEST:


John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk


Kelly Cooper, Assembly President



Yes: Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, Cooper
No: None
Absent: None