

Agenda Item:	<u>M.2</u>
Committee:	<u>Finance</u>
Page Number:	<u>100</u>

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS
ORDINANCE 2016-09

1. CITY OF SOLDOTNA Soldotna
2. HILL, Christie Homer
3. PHELPS, Dollynda Soldotna
4. MORWAWITZ, Mike Homer
5. MCGAHAN, Karen and Richard Soldotna
6. ANDERSON, Deborah Homer
7. ARAMOVICH, Susan Homer
8. HOWE, Duane Homer
9. REPPER, Richard and Irene Soldotna
10. ELLIOT, Charles Soldotna
11. BIXBY, William Soldotna
12. CODY, Meldonna Homer
13. BECKER, Shelly Soldotna
14. OLSON, Norm Soldotna

15. BERGER, Karen & MCCASLAND, Stephen Soldotna
16. ZUYUS, Peter..... Homer
17. GARCIA, Lisa..... Soldotna
18. ANDRESS, Duane and Diane..... Homer
19. KAIN, TaraAnchor Point
20. STEAD, Sherry Homer
21. MAHAN, Aaron and Brittany..... Homer
22. HINDSMAN, John
23. CHRISTIE, CarolAnchor Point
24. PRICE, JamesKenai
25. MCBRIDE, Mike.....Kenai
26. CLAY, Phillip and Tammy..... Homer

Introduced By: City Manager
Date: April 27, 2016
Action: Adopted
Vote: 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent

CITY OF SOLDOTNA
RESOLUTION 2016-018

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH (KPB) ORDINANCE 2016-09
TO CHANGE THE SEASONAL EXEMPTION FROM SALES TAXES OF NON-PREPARED
FOOD ITEMS TO APPLY FROM OCTOBER 1 TO MARCH 31 OF EACH YEAR

WHEREAS, KPB Assemblyman Dale Bagley introduced Ordinance 2016-09, which would amend KPB 5.18.200 changing the Seasonal Exemption From Sales Tax of Non-Prepared Food Items to Apply from October 1 to March 1 of Each Year; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance is to be heard on May 3, 2016 at the regularly scheduled Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting; and

WHEREAS, the KPB Finance Department has estimated that the existing 9 month sales tax exemption for non-prepared foods would result in a loss of \$1.05 to \$1.2 million in sales tax revenues for the City of Soldotna; and

WHEREAS, due to the severe budget deficit at the State level, anticipated revenue sharing and capital grant monies from the State to the City of Soldotna have been greatly reduced; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that these revenues and grants will continue to be reduced in ensuing years leaving the City to look to other revenues to offset the shortage; and

WHEREAS, modifying the sales tax exemption on non-prepared foods from nine to six months should, based upon the above KPB estimates, would result in an increase in sales tax revenue of \$350,000 to \$400,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Soldotna supports the enactment of Ordinance 2016-09;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLDOTNA, ALASKA:

Section 1. The City Council respectfully urges the Kenai Peninsula Assembly members to support and enact Ordinance 2016-09.

Section 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Clerk's Office.

Section 3. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 27TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016.


Pete Sprague, Mayor

ATTEST:


Michelle M. Sauer, CMC, City Clerk

Ayes: Baxter, Whitney, Marquez, Cashman, Murphy
Noes: None
Absent: Daniels

16RES018



Mark A. Dixon
City Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

DATE: April 20, 2016

SUBJECT: Resolution 2016-018- A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ORDINANCE 2016-09 TO CHANGE THE SEASONAL EXEMPTION FROM SALES TAXES OF NON-PREPARED FOOD ITEMS TO APPLY FROM OCTOBER 1 TO MARCH 31 OF EACH YEAR

Assemblyman Dale Bagley has introduced KPB Ordinance amending the non-prepared food sales tax exemption period from 9 months to 6 months estimating that the revenue to the Kenai Peninsula Borough would increase approximately \$1.4 million. Based upon the KPB Finance Director the 9 month sales tax exemption is expected to result in a loss of revenue to the City of Soldotna between \$1.05 and \$1.2 million.

Passage of Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our revenues between \$350,000 and \$400,000. With the decrease in State revenue sharing and the lack of state capital grants, coupled with the fact that we are not a home rule city, passage of this KPB Ordinance is critical to our being able to maintain our current City operations.

Blankenship, Johni

02016-09

From: Christie Hill <christiehill77@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 8:36 PM
To: Cooper, Kelly; Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
Subject: Please Vote NO!!

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
- Everyone is cutting back on their budgets, not just government, but the people as well. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is NOT appropriate.
- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,

Christie Hill
Homer, Alaska

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 8:52 PM
To: Assembly
Cc: Blankenship, Johni
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Name: Dollynda Phelps

Email: Jeffndol@yahoo.com

Subject: NO grocery tax

Message:

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.

Everyone is cutting back on their budgets, not just government, but the people as well. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is NOT appropriate.

AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Dollynda Phelps

Blankenship, Johni

02016-09

From: Mike Morawitz <mbmortz@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 8:29 AM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com
Subject: No vote on grocery tax

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
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- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Mike Morawitz, Homer, Ak 99603

From: richardmcgahan <boulderpoint@alaska.net>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 7:12 AM
To: Navarre, Mike
Subject: Ord. 2016-09

REGARDING: ORDINANCE 2016-09

Dear Assemblymen:

How many times do the voters have to speak on this issue? (Votes in 2008, 2011, and just in 2015!) Please vote NO on this ordinance.

Leave it like it is now. Groceries should not be taxed, period.
It's getting harder and harder to live here.

Thank you for considering our remarks.
Karen and Richard McGahan

Blankenship, Johni

02016-09

From: Deborah Anderson <paragondeb@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 8:49 AM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
Subject: Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
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- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,

Deborah Anderson
41140 China Poot St
Homer, AK 99603

Blankenship, Johni

02016-09

From: Scott Burbank <burbsarmo@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 10:37 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni
Subject: Grocery Tax

Attn: Johni Blakenship,

Please vote no to Ordinance 2016-09/ No Extra Please vote no to Ordinance 2016-09/ No Extra Grocery Tax. If you continue to tax groceries more revenue will just be spent up the road (Anchorage). If this grocery tax is not abolished local businesses will suffer....Fundamental food needs should never be taxed Sincerely, Susan Aramovich Homer

Sent from my iPad

Blankenship, Johni

02016-09

From: Duane Howe <drduhowe@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 10:53 AM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
Subject: Additional 9 months of grocery tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
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- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
(Your First and Last Name, and City)

Duane Howe, Homer

From: Richard&Irene Repper <ireneq@ak.net>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 11:31 AM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
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I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Richard and Irene Repper Soldotna

02016-09

Subject:

FW: No Grocery Tax

From: Charles Elliott <charles-t-elliott@hotmail.com>

Date: April 29, 2016 at 11:13:50 PM AKDT

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, "Assemblyman Dale Bagley" <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>, Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Subject: No Grocery Tax

How dare the assembly consider taking this up again after the voters (your constituents in case you've forgotten) voted against it. Disregard for the publics desires and disrespectful to those you swore to serve.

Vote No

It should not even be a topic of discussion.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7 edge, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

02016-09

Subject:

FW: GROCERY TAXES and BAGLEY'S ORDINANCE 2016-09

From: William Bixby <wbixby@brpcak.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 6:19:40 AM AKDT

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, "Assemblyman Dale Bagley" <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>, Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Subject: GROCERY TAXES and BAGLEY'S ORDINANCE 2016-09

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
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- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Wm. J. Bixby

Bill Bixby
BRPC Drilling Supt.
Direct: 907-865-5842
Mobile: 907-398-3539

02016-09

Subject:

FW: "NO" really does mean NO

From: Meldonna Cody <meldonna1@gmail.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 8:57:53 AM AKDT

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, "Assemblyman Dale Bagley" <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>

Subject: "NO" really does mean NO

Dear Assembly Member,

Here we go again:

Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

It is insulting to the voters to have Assemblyman Bagley bring this up over and over and over again when clearly the voters have spoken... over and over and over.

The June through August grocery tax is reasonable. It shares the burden with visitors. It hits locals at a time when they are most likely to make larger grocery purchases when their incomes are likely to be larger due to tourism and other seasonal industries.

I recall listening to an assembly meeting on this issue when one of the assembly members said something to the affect that a few more dollars, \$ 5 here and there doesn't matter. Well, that statement reflects that the speaker did not and does not relate to those struggling in the KPB. It matters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Meldonna Cody, Homer



Virus-free. www.avast.com

02016-09

Subject:

FW: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

From: Shell Becker <geminimuse@gmail.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 9:54:04 AM AKDT

To: <wdunne@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, <wogle@borough.kenai.ak.us>, <dbagley@borough.kenai.ak.us>, "Assemblyman Stan Welles" <swelles@kpb.us>, <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, "Mayor Mike Navarre" <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>, <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
- Everyone is cutting back on their budgets, not just government, but the people as well. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is NOT appropriate.
- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,

,,• ("")) -:|:-,•' .•(""))*((,,•' ..•'

Shelly Becker
Soldotna

02016-09

Subject:

FW: There's more to lose than revenue!

From: Norm Olson <norm.mary.olson@gmail.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 11:40:58 AM AKDT

To: Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Dale Bagley <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, "Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl" <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>

Subject: There's more to lose than revenue!

Reply-To: <norm.mary.olson@gmail.com>

I have been urged to add my voice with those who are asking the Assembly for a NO vote on Ordinance 2016-09. Along with their letters and emails, I include this:

I admit that my trust in the "representatives" of this representative republic has become jaded and fatigued. I have seen far more "begging before the throne" than I have seen politicians yearning to REALLY serve the people who voted them into office. If petitions to our Assembly members to vote a certain way actually persuaded our elected officials, then it would follow that their minds could be changed by a majority without regard to what is right. In the present atmosphere of fiscal calamity and sparse revenues, I dare say that money will speak louder than the pleas of the people. Taxing food will mean increased revenues and increased revenues will feather the beds of the political buzzards. But please write your letters. Just let them know how you REALLY feel!

02016-09

Subject:

FW: Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

From: Karen Berger/Homer Brewing Co. <homerbrew96@gmail.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 2:23:53 PM AKDT

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, "Assemblyman Dale Bagley" <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>, Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Subject: Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
- Everyone is cutting back on their budgets, not just government, but the people as well. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is NOT appropriate.
- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Karen E. Berger
Stephen F. McCasland

02016-09

Subject:

FW: Ordinance 2016-09

From: peter zuyus <ptzsr1@yahoo.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 2:32:41 PM AKDT

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, "Assemblyman Dale Bagley" <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>

Subject: Ordinance 2016-09

Reply-To: peter zuyus <ptzsr1@yahoo.com>

Dear Assembly members:

I ask that the Assembly reject Assembly member Dale Bagley's submission of Ordinance 2016-09 to increase the grocery tax on the Kenai Peninsula. The "will of the people" has been expressed many times at the voting booth and is CLEAR, NO increase in grocery taxes by percentage or change in the tax season.

The submission of Ordinance 2016-09 makes it obvious the Mr. Bagley has no acceptance or respect for the firm vote of the people of the KPB.

Please do not join him in this overt action to raise taxes on one of life's essentials – food. All of you, including Mr. Bagley were elected to office by a vote of the people, the same people who have repeatedly rejected changing the current grocery tax situation.

Show the same respect for the constituents who elected you to the assembly, that you had when they voted for you and respect their firm wishes to reject any increase in grocery taxes.

Hear what your constituents have said. Please do not spend your vote supporting the repetitive, harmful and misguided attempt to increase grocery taxes, submitted by Mr. Bagley

Assembly members, join your constituents and Cast a resounding NO vote on Ordinance 2016-09.

Thank you for your time,

Peter T. Zuyus

02016-09

Subject:

FW: Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

From: Lisa Garcia <garcialisamarie@yahoo.com>

Date: April 30, 2016 at 9:48:18 PM AKDT

To: "gknopp@kpb.us" <gknopp@kpb.us>, "bgilman@kpb.us" <bgilman@kpb.us>, "wogle@borough.kenai.ak.us" <wogle@borough.kenai.ak.us>, "dbagley@borough.kenai.ak.us" <dbagley@borough.kenai.ak.us>

Cc: "swelles@kpb.us" <swelles@kpb.us>, "bholmdahl@kpb.us" <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, "bjohnson@kpb.us" <bjohnson@kpb.us>, "kellycooper@kpb.us" <kellycooper@kpb.us>, "wdunne@kpb.us" <wdunne@kpb.us>, "mnavarre@kpb.us" <mnavarre@kpb.us>

Subject: Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Reply-To: Lisa Garcia <garcialisamarie@yahoo.com>

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
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I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,
Lisa Garcia, Soldotna

Blankenship, Johni

From: Aaron Mahan <knightofiam@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
Subject: Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
- Everyone is cutting back on their budgets, not just government, but the people as well. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is NOT appropriate.
- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Sincerely,

Aaron & Brittany Mahan of Homer

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John Hindsman** <wacgranddad@yahoo.com>

Date: Fri, Apr 29, 2016 at 12:49 PM

Subject: My vote on the grocery tax

To: "endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com" <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Please vote NO. John Hindsman (907) 756-1084 wacgranddad@yahoo.com

Blankenship, Johni

From: C Christie <backwoodsalaska@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2016 7:15 PM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
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Sincerely,

Carol Christie
Anchor Point

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From: James Price <jpriceak@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2016 7:55 PM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
Subject: 2016-09

Dear Elected Assemblyperson,

How many times do Borough voters have to vote for Grocery Tax Relief before their will is respected by our elected Assembly politicians? We elect representatives, not rulers. Who do you represent?

The Assembly was **WRONG** when it attempted to deny the **RIGHT** of the **PEOPLE** to repeal the Assembly legislation that denied the full effect of the original 2008 Grocery Tax Initiative. Our group spent **YEARS** in **COURT** to fight the Assembly, because the Assembly refused to **RESPECT** the **WILL** of the **PEOPLE** (all while the Borough collected millions in excess taxes from the people). Now, the Assembly wants to further dilute the protection provided by our Citizen's Initiative(s). How often must we face threats from the Assembly to tax local grocery sales? How often must the people sign initiatives, referendums and vote **FOR GROCERY TAX RELIEF**?

It appears that we have fundamental issues with our representative form of government. If you think "We the People" are ready to concede, you are **WRONG**. You won't like what the people will support to solve your desire for a balanced budget. If this is your solution for your perceived funding issues... I can assure you, you won't like mine.

The people have addressed this issue repeatedly. If you **RESPECT** the **WILL** of the **PEOPLE**, please **VOTE NO**.

Sincerely,

James Price
49185 Island Lake Road
Kenai, AK 99611
907-776-3481

Blankenship, Johni

From: M & M <akmatrix2010@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 7:14 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni; Turner, Michele; Navarre, Mike
Subject: Sales Tax KPB O2016-09; Mayors Budget, School funding

Good Morning,

Please forward to all Assembly Members and add to the public record.

Mr. Mayor, Assembly Members:

I am not happy when elected officials such as yourselves disregard the public voice. Voters have approved the exemption on non prepared foods several times.

I think it is vain and/or arrogant when elected officials assume they are smarter or better informed than members of the public. By supporting KPB O- 2016-09 you are going on the record telling us all that you are smarter, better informed, and have numerous justification for your action. But I think the public is on to you now or will be very soon.

In past assemblies, there was disdain for voter initiatives such as term limits. Time and again the term limits was fought and won by the public.

Now you wish to have a similar battle with the public? If so, put the question on the fall ballot and let both sides make their case. Then live with that decision. Your job is to live with these public decisions, not fight them.

If you are short of cash. CUT EXPENSES! Everyone else is doing it. Don't be like the state, kicking that can down the road for someone else to take care of. Show us how smart you are by being pro-active in cutting the cost of government. If the labor unions want more money and benefits, fine. But cut the equivalent number of employees to fund those raises. Problem solved.

Now that you are in the cutting mode, I suggest you take a big chunk of tax dollars out of the mayor's budget. He does not need junkets to foreign countries or visits to ANYWHERE for that matter.

He also does not need that LNG liaison. That's a big chunk of our tax dollars that will bear NO FRUIT.... EVER. If the liaison was being honest he would know and then tell you the fact that no gas pipeline will be built in our lifetime. There are similar projects all over the world that are currently being unfunded and shelved due to the abundant world wide gas surplus.

Finally, stop feeding the monster. You are getting a lousy return on public education funding. We currently pay top dollar and you are routinely applauded by the teachers unions for funding to the cap, but we are not getting adequate bang for our hard earned bucks.

I've seen the school district numbers and you can too. There is NO significant improvement on any test scores or other means of grading the school districts performance, student populations are going down and COST IS GOING UP. How

can anyone in there right mind justify this gross waste of money?

So who do you really represent? The general public? Or the KPB government? Where exactly are your priorities?

I strongly suggest you make the right choice by voting no on the mayor's budget, public support of school district funding and the sales tax increase.

Regards,

Mike McBride
North Kenai

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Homeworks, Inc** <homeworks.construction@yahoo.com>

Date: Mon, May 2, 2016 at 10:14 AM

Subject: Vote NO NO NO NO NO!!! on Ordinance 2016-09

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <wogle@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Dale Bagley <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>, Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

You assemblymen and assemblywomen are elected by Kenai Peninsula voters who have ALREADY said NO to grocery tax THREE times. STOP spitting in the faces of the people who put you in your office by ignoring their voices. YOU DO NOT HAVE OUR CONSENT TO BRING BACK THE GROCERY TAX.

Everyone in the state is being affected by the low oil prices and are cutting their household budgets to make ends meet. The State and Boroughs need to start trimming the fat out of the budgets, just like the people who elected you are having to do. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is an undue burden on families trying to make their money stretch to the end of the month.

We implore you to find other ways to make up the deficits (cutting spending FIRST). Please put this issue to bed, and don't revisit it again. The people have spoken.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Phillip and Tammy Clay

count this as TWO voices who are AGAIN saying NO to grocery tax.

02016-09

Subject: FW: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

From: Gus Andress <biocyclealaska@gci.net>

Date: May 1, 2016 at 7:40:12 PM AKDT

To: 'Assemblyman Gary Knopp' <gknopp@kpb.us>, 'Assemblyman Blaine Gilman' <bgilman@kpb.us>, 'Assemblyman Wayne Ogle' <wogle@kpb.us>, "'Assemblyman Dale Bagley'" <dbagley@kpb.us>, 'Assemblyman Stan Welles' <swelles@kpb.us>, 'Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl' <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, "'Assemblyman Brent Johnson'" <bjohnson@kpb.us>, 'Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper' <kellycooper@kpb.us>, 'Assemblyman Willy Dunne' <wdunne@kpb.us>, "'Mayor Mike Navarre'" <mnavarre@kpb.us>, 'Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship' <jblankenship@kpb.us>, 'Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now' <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Cc: <biocyclealaska@gci.net>, 'Tom Patton' <kachemakbayconstruction@gmail.com>, <thedrakes@horizonsatellite.com>, 'Tara Kain' <tara_kain@yahoo.com>

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Dear Assembly Member,

Assemblyman Dale Bagley's Proposed Ordinance 2016-09 would increase our grocery tax from 3 months a year to 6 months a year. Please Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09:

- Assemblyman Bagley says that he wants to TAX OUR GROCERIES MORE because of the projected state budget deficit and therefore the borough will receive less money. Taxing our food, a basic necessity of life, is NOT the right thing to do to "make up" for any potential budget deficits.
- Everyone is cutting back on their budgets, not just government, but the people as well. Taxing the food we need to eat to survive, especially during times of hardship, is NOT appropriate.
- AND the voters have spoken multiple times that we DO NOT want our groceries taxed! The people have voted THREE TIMES to NOT TAX OUR GROCERIES. These votes occurred in 2008, 2011 and most recently in October 2015. Please DO NOT DISENFRANCHISE the voters.

I am asking that you respect our votes, the will of the people, and our community. Please VOTE NO on Ordinance 2016-09.

Additionally we suggest that if, Assemblyman Bagley wishes to increase funds to the borough, perhaps he should consider a tax increase on all real estate sales commissions to the brokers.

Sincerely,

(Duane and Diane Andress, Homer)

02016-09

Subject:

FW: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

From: Tara Kain <tara_kain@yahoo.com>

Date: May 1, 2016 at 10:19:51 PM AKDT

To: Assemblyman Gary Knopp <gknopp@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Blaine Gilman <bgilman@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Wayne Ogle <woogle@kpb.us>, "Assemblyman Dale Bagley" <dbagley@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Stan Welles <swelles@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Brandii Holmdahl <bholmdahl@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Brent Johnson <bjohnson@kpb.us>, Assemblywoman Kelly Cooper <kellycooper@kpb.us>, Assemblyman Willy Dunne <wdunne@kpb.us>, Mayor Mike Navarre <mnavarre@kpb.us>, Borough Clerk Johni Blankenship <jblankenship@kpb.us>, Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Subject: Vote NO on Ordinance 2016-09 / NO Extra Grocery Tax

Reply-To: Tara Kain <tara_kain@yahoo.com>

Dear Assembly Member,

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Sincerely,

Tara Kain
Anchor Point, AK

Subject:

FW: Grocery tax

From: Sherry Stead [<mailto:sdstead@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, May 02, 2016 1:21 PM

To: Knopp, Gary <GKnopp@kpb.us>; Gilman, Blaine <bgilman@kpb.us>; Ogle, Wayne <wogle@kpb.us>; Bagley, Dale <dbagley@kpb.us>; Welles, Stan <swelles@kpb.us>; Holmdahl, Brandii <BHolmdahl@kpb.us>; Johnson, Brent <BJohnson@kpb.us>; Cooper, Kelly <kellycooper@kpb.us>; Dunne, Willy <WDunne@kpb.us>; Navarre, Mike <mnavarre@kpb.us>; Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

Subject: Grocery tax

I am on the board of Homer Community Food Pantry. I see weekly the need of people on the Kenai Peninsula that need food. We are currently seeing an average of 140 households every week. Taxing groceries will only make it harder for their dollars to go further as well as the families that do not come in every week.

I know we need money from taxes, but this tax hurts that ones that are already food insecure and will make it even more difficult than it already is for many families.

Please do not tax groceries.

Thank you

Sherry Stead

--



“A green dot is simply your individual choice at any given moment to make our communities safer....no one has to do everything, but everyone has to do something...What's your GREEN DOT?”

Blankenship, Johni

From: Aaron Mahan <knightofiam@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 12:30 PM
To: Knopp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
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To: "endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com" <endgrocerytax2015@gmail.com>

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To: Knöpp, Gary; Gilman, Blaine; Ogle, Wayne; Bagley, Dale; Welles, Stan; Holmdahl, Brandii; Johnson, Brent; Cooper, Kelly; Dunne, Willy; Navarre, Mike; Blankenship, Johni; Alaskans For Grocery Tax Relief Now
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Anchor Point

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James Price
49185 Island Lake Road
Kenai, AK 99611
907-776-3481

Blankenship, Johni

From: M & M <akmatrix2010@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 7:14 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni; Turner, Michele; Navarre, Mike
Subject: Sales Tax KPB O2016-09; Mayors Budget, School funding

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Regards,

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North Kenai

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Phillip and Tammy Clay

count this as TWO voices who are AGAIN saying NO to grocery tax.