

Introduced by: Cox, Hibbert, Mayor
Date: 06/02/20
Action: Adopted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2020-041**

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE CRUISE LINE INDUSTRY TO RETURN TO
ALASKA, AND SPECIFICALLY THE KENAI PENINSULA IN 2021**

WHEREAS, the cruise line industry transports approximately 60 percent of all summer visitors to Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Seward, Homer, Cooper Landing, Kenai, Soldotna, and other locations on the Kenai Peninsula derive a great economic benefit from those visitors; and

WHEREAS, the entire tourism industry, from small tour companies, remote lodges, and large operators, all benefit from cruise line marketing, even if the visitors arrive via modes of transportation other than cruise; and

WHEREAS, visitors who cruise across the Gulf of Alaska fly either to or from Alaska, providing more commercial air flight options for residents of Alaska to utilize; and

WHEREAS, one-quarter of visitors who previously visited Alaska via a cruise ship independently travel to Alaska again; and

WHEREAS, most cruise lines have canceled their 2020 Alaska season due to the COVID-19 Pandemic-related restrictions; and

WHEREAS, no other type of transportation, other than the cruise ship mechanism, can transport the volume of visitors vital to our local tourism economy which is needed to stabilize our general economic wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, cancellation of cruises to the Kenai Peninsula (and all of Alaska) in 2020 is causing great economic distress to our small businesses and local communities; and

WHEREAS, all Kenai Peninsula businesses and communities feel the economic impact of tourism, especially those within the hospitality and tourism industry;

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

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly encourages the cruise line industry to return to Alaska, specifically the Kenai Peninsula in 2021, as it is mutually beneficial to businesses, communities, visitors, and the cruise line industry.

SECTION 2. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports actions that may be taken by the State of Alaska and the United States of America to also encourage the cruise lines to return to Alaska, and the Kenai Peninsula, as soon as it is safe and practical.

SECTION 3. That a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Dunleavy, all Kenai Peninsula Borough Legislators, Alaska's Congressional Delegation, Holland America Group, Royal Caribbean Cruises, Celebrity Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Windstar Cruises, Regent Seven Seas Cruises, Silversea Cruises, Azamara, PONANT, Crystal Cruises and the Alaska Travel Industry Association.

SECTION 4. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 2ND DAY OF JUNE, 2020.

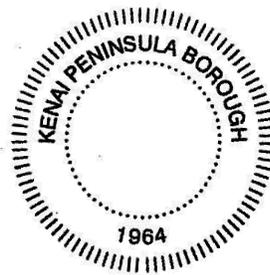


Kelly Cooper, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



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