

# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

## Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

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Kelly Cooper, Assembly President  
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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Kelly Cooper, Assembly President  
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Members

**FROM:** Willy Dunne, Assembly Member *(B) for W.D.*

**DATE:** March 9, 2017

**RE:** Resolution 2017- *029*, Encouraging Congress to Create a Reliable, Predictable Stream of Resources to Address Deferred Maintenance Needs in America's National Park System (Dunne)

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There are three national parks located at least partially in the Kenai Peninsula Borough: the Katmai National Park and Preserve, the Kenai Fjords National Park, and the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. These national parks provide an enormous economic benefit to the Kenai Peninsula Borough through tourism and job creation opportunities. According to U.S. National Park Service ("NPS") estimates, in 2015 visitors spent an estimated \$145.1 million in local gateway regions while visiting these parks, which supported 2,226 jobs and \$73.2 million in total labor income. These estimates clearly show the economic value these national parks provide for the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

However, according to the NPS as of September 30, 2015, the deferred maintenance of National Parks nationwide totaled \$11.927 billion, including repairs needed to bridges, tunnels, paved and unpaved parking areas and roadways, utility systems, dams, constructed waterways, marinas, aviation systems, railroads, ships, monuments, fortifications, towers, interpretive media and amphitheaters.

This resolution urges Congress to create a reliable, predicable stream of resources to address these vitally important deferred maintenance projects and enable the parks to continue to serve the public and ensure the preservation of the United States' natural places and historical resources.

Your support of this resolution would be appreciated.