

Broyles, Randi

R2021-067

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 2:38 PM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>2021-067

-----Original Message-----

From: Ken Landfield <keng2013@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 2:33 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>2021-067

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I oppose this resolution. It is not about "inclusivity" at all. It is divisive, selfish, close-minded, anti-scientific, anti-social, intolerant and intolerable.

I vigorously oppose this resolution.

Ken Landfield
Homer

Sent from my iPad

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 1:58 PM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

From: Clyde Boyer and Vivian Finlay <vivandclyde@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:52 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: Re: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

We appreciate your help to distribute our comments.

We have been doing more thinking about the proposed resolution, and hope you can add that we are very concerned that "free choice" should not apply to public health emergencies. Here in Homer, restaurants and businesses have recently closed because employees are exposed to COVID and must self quarantine. We hope that "free choice" will not include people choosing not to be tested for COVID, or if they test "positive", choosing not to quarantine and/or continuing to "act as usual" in public with no mitigation measures (masking and distancing) in place.

Thank you.
Vivian and Clyde

On Mon, Sep 6, 2021 at 11:19 AM Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us> wrote:

Thank you for your comments. They will be distributed to the Assembly and the Administration for consideration.

Johni Blankenship, MMC

Borough Clerk

(907) 714-2162 direct

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, Alaska 99669



PUBLIC RECORDS LAW DISCLOSURE: This email and responses to this email may be subject to provisions of Alaska Statutes and may be made available to the public upon request.

From: Clyde Boyer and Vivian Finlay <vivandclyde@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 6:13 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward this email to the Assembly and to the Mayor. Thank you.

We are vehemently opposed to this resolution and to the apparent intent behind it: A Resolution Declaring the Kenai Peninsula Borough to be an Inclusive Community where Citizens are Treated Equally and Empowered with Free Choice.

We do believe that all Alaskan communities should be "inclusive", where all Citizens should be treated equally. However, we do not agree that everyone should have "free choice" to do whatever they want. We have laws and regulations to benefit the health, safety and welfare of the public - wearing seat belts, driving speed limits, mandated use of personal flotation devices for children, limiting the use of alcohol to those 21 and older, and so on....

Laws which are well written and well researched, are based on scientific studies that seek to protect our citizens.

There is overwhelming scientific research and evidence showing that wearing masks in public places, during a pandemic, helps to keep people healthy. There is further overwhelming evidence that vaccinations to prevent serious cases of COVID-19 are very effective.

If you allow people to have "free choice" about wearing masks and getting vaccinated, during this pandemic, then you will be discriminating against people like us. We want to patronize businesses, eat out at restaurants, attend gatherings, but we are at risk of getting the COVID infection, even though we wear masks and are vaccinated, because so many people have made the choice to "do what they want" rather than to take measures to protect others. We are elderly, and we have taken visiting family and friends only to restaurants where vaccinations are required, and visited stores where masks are required. It is in those places where we feel safest.

This proposed resolution essentially means that anyone who was hoping to see the end of the pandemic, and everyone rapidly and respectfully taking deliberate care to wear masks - TO PROTECT OTHERS - and to get vaccinated - TO AVOID SERIOUS ILLNESS AND HOSPITALIZATION - would be "excluded". Those of us who want to wear masks and to be vaccinated will NOT be treated equally. We cannot go to businesses and places where people are allowed to "carry on" without concern or care for the health and well being of others. Even though our risks of infection from COVID-19 are small, they still exist, and we can still pass along infections to other people.

The newspapers report similar concerns that we are addressing with the following comments:

Providence Alaska Chief Executive Preston Simmons said hospitals have fewer nurses per patient because they're at capacity...He emphasized the importance of wearing face masks. He said while children generally have mild symptoms from the virus, they often spread the disease. He noted that COVID-19's growth was less in the spring, when schools required masks. And the surge in Alaska grew after some districts re-opened without requiring masks.

"We need to be smart and take care of each other by masking up," he said.

Please be WISE and RESPECTFUL of all people. Free choice that hurts others should absolutely NOT be tolerated.

Thank you.

Vivian Finlay and Clyde Boyer

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455 Elderberry Drive,
Homer, AK. 99603 USA
(907) 435-3903

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455 Elderberry Drive,
Homer, AK. 99603 USA
(907) 435-3903

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:23 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 5:11 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>; Mayor's Department <MayorDepartmental@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Lori J Landstrom

Your Email: ljlandstrom81@gmail.com

Subject: Resolution 2121-067

Message:

I am strongly opposed to Res. 2021-067. I am a firm believer in personal freedoms. However as a healthcare provider, during a pandemic, PUBLIC HEALTH must triumph over personal freedom. Businesses and organizations should be able to decide if they want to have a mask mandate or vaccination mandate. For the protection of all of their employees. I disagree with the second where as in the resolution. I do not think you have done enough to support public health and the local health care system. Please listen to the healthcare experts at your 4pm mtg on 9/7. Please listen to the science. I am appalled by this resolution. Thank you.

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:23 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>To The Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor

From: Skywalker Payne <annsdaughta@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 9:52 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>To The Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I am writing to express my shock over the proposed "Inclusive" resolution. This resolution should be called, "How stupid can you get."

This Borough is the second lowest in vaccination rates. Three people died last week in Homer and people are getting hospitalized every day. As a retired nurse, and currently working in an Assisted Living Home, I think such actions from people who are supposed to set examples of leadership and common sense inexcusable.

No one has mistreated anyone not wearing a mask or not vaccinated. Not being allowed entry or access because you feel you have a right to contaminate others, is not limiting anyone's freedom. It's been clearly shown that the simple act of wearing a mask protects you and others, to refuse to do that is the height of selfishness and self-harm.

I stand opposed to that resolution and ask you to vote against it.

Sincerely,
Mrs. S. Payne
166 West Bunnell Ave.
Homer, AK

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:19 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-67

From: marshall@xyz.net <marshall@xyz.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 11:04 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-67

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Please forward the following email to all of the Assembly members. Thank you!

This concern regarding Resolution 2021-067 is expressed by Karen Murdock and Bill Marshall. We both reside at 55200 East End Road, Homer, AK 99603. We have lived at this address for over 35 years.

We want to state our vehement opposition to the proposed resolution. Our Borough currently has an extremely high rate of Covid-19 and is the second lowest borough in the state for vaccinations. Our hospitals on the peninsula are overwhelmed by the numbers of Covid admissions. Anchorage hospitals are at/over capacity for admissions. Seattle is not able to accommodate our residents for treatment. We are in the throes of a public health crisis. It is totally inappropriate for the Borough to even consider, never mind propose, a resolution that jeopardizes the health of all its citizens.

If the Borough wishes to be identified as "an inclusive community, where all people should be treated equally, with equity, compassion, communal kindness, and understanding", then a resolution should be introduced that insures the public health safety of all its citizens by promoting Covid mitigation practices. The Borough could resolve to encourage businesses to offer safe mitigation practices and all of its citizens to follow suit. The Borough needs to be offering incentives for vaccinations, such as lotteries for prizes for those who are vaccinated. The Borough should be addressing the current state of crisis that our hospitals and health care workers are facing by promoting vaccinations, masking and other mitigation practices.

Both my husband and I are in a high risk category for Covid and the proposed resolution would jeopardize our health even more. The effect of the current practice of playing politics with our public health is being manifested in many ways on the peninsula. Health care workers are overwhelmed and infected with Covid. Hospitals are at capacity/over capacity. What happens to those emergencies, when the hospitals are full? We are all one car accident away from needing an ICU bed. Hospital patients and long term care residents are denied visitors. Covid is contaminating our schools, younger people are getting sicker and dying, our store shelves are empty because there is no one to stock the shelves, businesses closing because employees are sick. So much of this is preventable by getting vaccinated, wearing masks and socially distancing. Those mitigation practices are the

signs of an inclusive community that is kind and compassionate for all.

So, please vote against this resolution and focus on how to make our Borough the safest one in the state.

Thank you for this opportunity to voice our concerns,
Karen Murdock
Bill Marshall

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:18 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>2021-067

From: fallrun <fallrun@sonic.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 12:30 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>; laurenbutterfly62@gmail.com
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>2021-067

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This resolution may likely be a death sentence for some unvaccinated KPB people. While it has no weight as an enforceable regulation it will encourage selfish, dangerous behavior on the part of many misguided people. Passing 2021-067 would be irresponsible. Please vote against this proposal.

Roy J Wilson
Homer

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:18 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

From: Clyde Boyer and Vivian Finlay <vivandclyde@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 5, 2021 6:13 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

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If you allow people to have "free choice" about wearing masks and getting vaccinated, during this pandemic, then you will be discriminating against people like us. We want to patronize businesses, eat out at restaurants, attend gatherings, but we are at risk of getting the COVID infection, even though we wear masks and are vaccinated, because so many people have made the choice to "do what they want" rather than to take measures to protect others. We are elderly, and we have taken visiting family and friends only to restaurants where vaccinations are required, and visited stores where masks are required. It is in those places where we feel safest.

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from the virus, they often spread the disease. He noted that COVID-19's growth was less in the spring, when schools required masks. And the surge in Alaska grew after some districts re-opened without requiring masks.

"We need to be smart and take care of each other by masking up," he said.

Please be WISE and RESPECTFUL of all people. Free choice that hurts others should absolutely NOT be tolerated.

Thank you.

Vivian Finlay and Clyde Boyer

--
455 Elderberry Drive,
Homer, AK. 99603 USA
(907) 435-3903

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:18 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

-----Original Message-----

From: Sammy Crawford <scrawfordak68@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 8:32 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on resolution 2021-067. I am very concerned about the rise in Covid-19 cases. Our hospital is full. Our schools are in danger of cases spreading from teachers to students & vice versa. A mask mandate is not a severe way to prevent spread of this terrible virus.

Vaccines are the only way to prevent further spread & proven to work. Please vote to do all to prevent the spread & save the future of our precious communities.

Sincerely, Sammy Crawford, Kenai

Sent from my iPhone

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:17 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Letter for the borough assembly

From: Lynn Spence <ltakeokaspence@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Letter for the borough assembly

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly members,

I am opposed to Resolution 2021-067. I believe this resolution makes confusing statements about the role of the government regarding the health and safety of the residents. Some statements say that the borough supports the rights of residents and business owners who want to protect the lives and health of those they love, work with, patrons of their businesses and all the children and health compromised people who are not eligible for Covid vaccines. Other statements in this resolution suggest unvaccinated people should be allowed entrance into these same businesses and public events that are trying to protect people from this deadly virus being spread by unvaccinated people. If the borough wants to take action, it should clearly be to protect lives. This resolution does not do that.

The messages in the resolution are contradictory so it is impossible to know what the borough is trying to say. Do you want to protect the health and safety of the residents or not? Masks and vaccines protect health and improve quality of life by keeping businesses, schools and social events open. If the borough supports the recommendations of the CDC then it would support the wearing of masks in all indoor spaces and outdoor places where social distancing is not possible. It would clearly recommend people get vaccinated.

We live in a society full of rules for the protection of health and safety. Most of us had required vaccinations to attend public schools. We live with rules about driving, drinking, insurance requirements, gun registration and much more for public safety and health.

If the borough actually wants to do something to boost our economy and keep our businesses and schools open, it would mandate masks and require vaccination for people who work for the government including hospitals, schools, and all public services. I understand this borough doesn't want to create mandates to address this public health crisis but it could take a clear stand that vaccinations and masks save lives and prevent the spread of the virus.

I hope the assembly will recognize this resolution is not actually about inclusivity or good health. It is about creating confusion about the rights of those willing to take action for the public good.

Sincerely,
Lynn Takeoka Spence
PO Box 1748
Homer, AK 99603
907-299-6646

Broyles, Randi

R2021-067

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:17 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

From: Lani Raymond <lanibirder@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 10:10 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

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*Please distribute to the Mayor and Assembly Members.
Thanks so much.*

TO: Charlie Pierce, Borough Mayor
and KPB Assembly Members

Sirs:
As elected officials, it is part of your job to look out for us citizens at the very least-- certainly not advocate for resolutions that would cause increased danger to us and our communities! Please do not approve Resolution 2021-067.

Science has shown that wearing a mask reduces the risk of infection for the person wearing it and for others in their vicinity. We should especially protect children who are not able to be vaccinated at this time, as well as folks with compromised immune systems and other health issues. Science has also shown that getting a vaccination helps folks from getting covid or when they do get it, they experience a much milder illness--not likely to have to be hospitalized or to die.

Encouraging mask wearing and getting vaccinated does not discriminate. It is a fact that if we all did those two things, not so many of us would not be getting sick, not dying, schools could operate safely, and business plus the economy could return to normal.

Say "NO!!" to Resolution 2021-067.

Lynda (Lani) Raymond

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

From: Timothy Whip <tim_whip@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 10:25 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

This resolution is political grandstanding as it does not protect my right not to have the COVID virus blown in my face. If the mayor and assembly are truly concerned about having a safe and inclusive community they will soundly reject Resolution 2021-067. As there are no federal, state or borough mandates for vaccines or masks there is no need for this resolution. Again, reject Resolution 2021-067.

Thank You,
Tim Whip
57639 Kokomo Rd
Homer, AK 99603

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

Public comment

From: Therese Lewandowski <thereselew@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 10:48 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Assembly People,

Regarding a resolution you will soon be discussing: 2021-067 "A Resolution declaring the KPB an inclusive community where citizens are treated equally and empowered with free choice."

That sounds nice but actually the resolution is about supporting NO mask mandates, no vaccine mandates, no vaccine cards to attend certain places/events.

Private businesses are private and if they have the freedom, in this particular pandemic crisis, to NOT require the wearing of face masks then they have the freedom to also REQUIRE it.

The point of non-masking freedom has been pushed down our throats for months.

I know this is just a resolution without teeth but it sates the disturbing hunger of some people to go after those who choose to protect themselves with mask wearing and distancing.

If we are wrong about wearing masks then the only consequence is the minor inconvenience (disregarding in this point the unintended causes of a madding crowd attacking people for wanting to be protected). If those who believe wearing masks so infringes on their freedoms they refuse to wear one and social distance in enclosed spaces are wrong, the consequences are many many deaths, taxed health care workers and hospitals, closed businesses and a very sickened population.

I just can't believe the lack of common sense in this resolution.

Respectfully,
Therese Lewandowski

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:05 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>comments to be shared on resolution 2021-067

From: bubba@horizonsatellite.com <bubba@horizonsatellite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>comments to be shared on resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Hi Johni,

Please pass my comments to the Assembly members and the Mayor. Have a good day. Again, thanks for all you do.

September 7, 2021

Good morning to the Borough Assembly and the Mayor,

I am writing to ask you to take Resolution 2021-067 off the agenda for today's meeting. It is highly controversial and you have many residents on both sides of the issue. This resolution, if voted on will continue to bring more division into our community-no matter if it passes or does not pass. Is this what we want to do to help our community?

I know as a resident and a tax payer, this resolution is mean spirited and has no place in Borough government. Since there is no legal standing on this resolution, you are assuming that the people should have a choice of how to handle the pandemic. You are disregarding medical health guidance from our state and the CDC. Also, you are giving people that don't want to wear masks in stores, which ask for masks to be worn, to disregard the store's request. This form of entitlement is not what a resolution should be allowing for-but it sends that message.

We have a diverse group of people in the Borough and you don't speak for all of them. These are challenging times and this resolution just throws gas on a fire that is burning pretty strong.

Please take this resolution off the agenda as it is a no-win resolution. As a school teacher in the Borough for over 28 years, I would never put my students in this kind of situation. The government should be here to help the people get through these difficult times and not make it worse.

Sincerely,

Our kids have been back in school for three weeks. Some of our schools have more than six percent of their population infected with COVID. More than one in eight has been identified as a close contact of someone at school with COVID-19. Close contacts who are unvaccinated have to stay out of school for a week to ten days. Some kids are already on their second round of exposure quarantine. This is not the way to offer effective in-person education to our kids.

As borough leaders, you are charged with making difficult decisions for the benefit of the borough residents. Your resolution includes the following whereas:

this resolution recognizes that citizens know what is best for their health and safety, the health and safety of their families, and through this resolution the borough assembly expresses its support for citizens' free choice

Yet If I decide that the health and safety of my family is better served by my free choice to not pay my property tax, you would send someone to collect the unpaid tax. If I decided that the health and safety of my family was best served by my free choice to make a playground out of junked vehicles that leached toxins into my neighbors' groundwater, you would make me stop and hold me responsible for cleanup costs. When it comes to public health, individual opinions should not hold the same weight as scientific consensus from agencies such as the CDC or the National Institutes of Health.

I implore you to consider the evidence and not make it harder for health and education professionals to do our jobs. I urge you not to put peninsula residents at increased risk of infection, chronic illness and death from COVID-19. You should be using every tool at your disposal to encourage vaccination, not discouraging proven public health measures.

Thank you for your time.

Kristin Mitchell, MD FACP

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:05 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 5:10 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>; Mayor's Department <MayorDepartmental@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Kristin Mitchell

Your Email: politicalkmm@gmail.com

Subject: opposition to 2021-067

Message:

I am writing to oppose the misguided resolution 2021-0167

As a medical professional who has dedicated my career to caring for residents of the Peninsula for more than 20 years, I pride myself on making life or death decisions based on science and evidence.

In a global pandemic, public health decisions made by government entities are life or death decisions, and as such should also be guided by science and evidence.

Here is some evidence for you to consider:

Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent infection, illness and death from COVID-19. Vaccination is the fastest way to control the pandemic and get back to the quality of life we value where hospitals, schools and businesses can operate freely. In the Kenai Peninsula borough we have the second-lowest vaccination rate in the state. Vaccines are free and readily available to all residents aged twelve and older.

Central Peninsula Hospital has been over maximum capacity for over a week because of COVID. The ICU is full. Patients are boarding in the emergency room. The emergency room is operating in surge capacity space. The state continues to set records for hospitalized COVID patients. More than 85% of the COVID patients in the hospital are unvaccinated. Medical and nursing and other hospital staff are exhausted and demoralized. These are the people charged with taking care of any of the residents of this borough if we should choose to have an elective surgical procedure or if we should be unfortunate and need emergency care. Anchorage hospitals are full. Seattle hospitals are full. We do not have a safety valve option where we can send patients for care when we can't provide what they need here in Soldotna. Governor Dunleavy warned last week to "Just understand that if you do get sick, if you do get injured and you plan on going to the hospital, you have to be prepared to not receive the care you expect."

ⁱ T. McDarrah, "Nasty, Brutish And Too Long: The 2021 Social Contract Of Covid Vaccines", Forbes (online), March 24, 2021

ⁱⁱ D. Cole & D. Mach, ACLU, "Civil Liberties and Vaccine Mandates: Here's Our Take", (Online & originally in New York Times), September 2, 2021

I am all for an inclusive community ... but opposed to Resolution 2021-067 without major revision.

We are lucky enough to be living in a rich country whose government wisely pulled out all the financial stops to enable the private sector to develop a (free!) vaccine through the "Operation Warp Speed" under both Administrations. The vaccine was, and still is, the only competent endgame against Covid-19. Mandates for the vaccine, masks etc. shouldn't be necessary but "we, the people" have shown ourselves to be vulnerable to misinformation and disinformation on a grand scale, so in the interest of public health it has become necessary for the government to step in to protect vulnerable people from severe illness and death.

The U.S. and Alaskan Constitutions are both 'Social Contracts' which rely on our agreement to accept some restraints on our liberty in exchange for safety and protection (including from anarchy) from our government.

T. McDarragh (Forbes) summarizes the arrangement: "Importantly, every U.S. citizen must agree to this [*social contract*] for the Constitution to hold any weight. If only followed by a few, it would simply be a piece of paper. Just like any social contract, it is the fact that everyone must follow it that gives it its power. This same logic is consistent for the vaccine. If only a few people receive the vaccine, its positive effects may help the individual but would offer little to no barrier to stop the spread of the virus throughout the population. The "peace of defence" that the vaccine provides is only available if a high threshold of people agree to receive it. This especially protects the most vulnerable, such as babies and individuals with certain contraindications to vaccines. As more and more people exchange the liberty of opting not to get the vaccine for the personal safety that the vaccine provides, they are also shareholders in the alliance of public health and well-being. This is the vaccine Social Contract."ⁱ

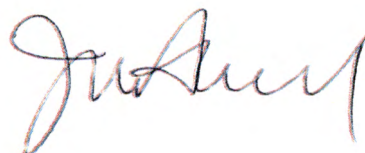
The ACLU recently published its position on vaccine mandates saying in part that in most circumstances objections to mandates are unfounded: "Vaccines are a justifiable intrusion on autonomy and bodily integrity. That may sound ominous, because we all have the fundamental right to bodily integrity and to make our own health care decisions. But these rights are not absolute. They do not include the right to inflict harm on others."ⁱⁱ

I hear an awful lot about "rights" and "liberty" these days, but not much about the other side of the equation: responsibilities. It might be helpful to refresh on the last part of Article 1, Section 1 of the Alaska Constitution: " ... **and that all persons have corresponding obligations to the people and to the State.**"

In general, I tend heavily toward libertarian principles when it comes to healthcare decisions with respect to my health. I have likely have opted for more "fringe" and "experimental" treatments than most people in this Borough, but they are always based on sound science and critical thinking. The vaccine, masking, and other minor inconveniences toward reducing and eventually "taming" Covid-19 are for public health and fully justified. Not a single one of my providers has recommended substituting anything for the vaccine or the other CDC guidelines. Boosting one's immune system is always a good idea, but not a substitute for the "Covid measures".

True patriotism and responsible citizenship demands that all but a very select few follow our "social contract" and conform to our government's recommendations (and mandates, if needed). Weak excuses and bad information from elected officials should not get "cover" through KPB Resolutions.

Wayne Aderhold / Homer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne Aderhold". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:00 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Proposed Resolution 2021-067

From: Analise Hartnett <analise.hartnett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:37 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Proposed Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

To the members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly,

I write today in opposition to the proposed resolution stating, in effect, that the KP government does not want to protect our communities and does not support vital public health measures like vaccines and masking.

Yes, every citizen has the right to make choices for their own body, their own family. But it is the function, purpose, and privilege of elected officials to safeguard the public wellbeing.

Our schools and students are suffering, and the effects of these years of disrupted education could have dangerous far-reaching consequences. It is NOT so-called government "overreach" to help protect the people and businesses affected by the choices of those who refuse to get a safe, effective vaccine or cover their nose and mouth when in public to slow the spread of a deadly virus and end the devastation of this pandemic.

Public health should not be political. Please denounce this resolution, protect your constituents and our children, and defend the long-term interests of the peninsula and our struggling communities.

Thank you,
Analise H. Goedeke
60599 Bear Creek Drive
Homer, AK 99603

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:59 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>For assembly dispersal

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathy Hill <kathhill@alaska.net>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 7:23 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>For assembly dispersal

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Re: Resolution 2021-067

Assembly Members and Mayor:

First and foremost, we are in a public health crisis, a world-wide pandemic.

It is not your job or right to restrict the public health policy of any church, school, business or event. It is necessary for all of us to respect the public health procedures that each entity puts in place, as they have a right to dictate what they want, etc.

Please allow the owners/leaders of the various entities to choose what is best for their clientele. Please think of others. It is not in your jurisdiction to legislate public health. I ask you to rely on the science and not on the emotional charge.

Folks, we have enough to worry about in just keeping ourselves healthy. I ask you to vote this resolution down.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Hill
Borough resident

Sent from my iPad

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:59 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Against Resolution 2021-067

From: sharon roufa <sharonybaloney@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 6, 2021 7:37 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Against Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

I'd like to express my dismay at the assembly's promotion of resolution 2021-067. It's in direct opposition to the assembly's express authority to promote public health, as granted by the US constitution. There's not only no legal authority to this resolution, but it also sends a poor message to the people who need to hear a positive message about how to protect their fellow citizens from the current public health scourge we are experiencing.

Sharon Roufa
5011 Alder Ln
Homer

Broyles, Randi

R 2021-067

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:51 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:29 AM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>; Mayor's Department <MayorDepartmental@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Kenneth Covey

Your Email: coveyscove@gmail.com

Subject: Resolution 2021-067

Message:

I support Mayor Pierce's resolution to not discriminate against any citizen based on their vaccination status for the following reasons.

1. Since there is a vaccination available to those of us who want it, that is safe and effective according to the FDA, those who are vaccinated have nothing to fear from the unvaccinated.
2. Those who choose to remain unvaccinated are the only ones who are at risk and have made their free will choice. That is called "Freedom".

Broyles, Randi

R2021-067

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:51 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:33 AM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>; Mayor's Department <MayorDepartmental@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Phil Lynner

Your Email: pjlynnner@gmail.com

Subject: Resolution 2021-067

Message:

I fully and completely support Mayor Pierce's resolution. No one should ever be discriminated against.

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:21 AM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Letter to KPB assembly RE resolution

-----Original Message-----

From: Evelyn Waltenbaugh <evelyn@waltenbaugh.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:20 AM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Letter to KPB assembly RE resolution

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

September 6, 2021

To the Kenia Peninsula Borough Assembly,

As a resident of the Kenia Peninsula, I agree with many of the statements of inclusive community, respect, etc for everyone. But this resolution is putting out the wrong message to the community. The resolution has a double talk effect with saying we support the CDC recommendations, but also saying that it is a freedom of choice to not abide by them. This is a community health and safety concern, not discrimination/personal choice issue.

Discrimination is when someone is treated differently because of race, color, age, disability, religion — things that a person can't change. Wearing a mask for the health and safety of the community is like having to drive on the right side of the road, speed limits, wearing safety belts, having restraurant workers were gloves and hair nets, safety requirements for construction workers, cannery workers, etc.

If businesses, places of worship, cultural events, etc., decide that it is in the interest of safety for their employees and visitors to wear a mask, they should be able to do that and respected. One can't go into some establishments without a shirt or shoes. People have the choice of whether to abide by the rules of those establishments or not participate or shop there. It isn't discriminatory.

As far as requiring notice of covid vaccination, there is a precedent of having to provide vaccination cards in order to attend school, travel to different countries, etc. These are not considered discriminatory. It is a health and safety issue. There is a personal choice not to participate. There are also waivers for medical and religious reasons.

This issue of Covid 19 virus and wearing masks has created such a divide in this community and country. Let's not continue to use the differences, but come together to get this virus under control enough that it won't be killing people daily, over burdening our hospitals (staff, nurses and doctors to the point of exhaustion), making it so the health system isn't able to treat or have a bed for people who have other health emergencies.

There are many rules, mandates that we do daily for the safely and health of the community. That is part of being a responsible citizen. The health system has provided a vaccine in a remarkable time to help eradicate this virus. It took

much longer for the measles, smallpox, polio vaccines that we have eliminated these diseases. But these virus were eliminated by vaccines.

Let's find a message that isn't filled with fear or distrust, but one that is asking citizens to help in eradicating Covid 19. The message needs to be clear, urgent and based on medical facts. Let's get this virus under control so we won't have these restrictions on our everyday life forever. Right now the quickest way to get to immunity is for a larger majority of people in the community to abide by the suggestions/ mandates.

We are all tired of the restrictions of the last year, but we haven't gotten to the point of eradication or immunity. Let's do what is necessary, even if inconvenient , right now to get this under control. Sometimes mandates are the only way to encourage people to do the right thing.

Please put out a resolution to bring the community together for health and safety of everyone.

Evelyn Waltenbaugh
Kenia Peninsula Borough resident

Broyles, Randi

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:50 PM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:18 PM
To: BoroughAssembly <Borough-Assembly@kpb.us>; Mayor's Department <MayorDepartmental@kpb.us>
Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Your Name: Jesse Kincaid

Your Email: jessekincaid@gmail.com

Subject: Res 2021-067

Message:

This does not belong on the consent agenda.
This is a weighty matter that requires a careful discussion of the ramifications of these words.

Health and safety.

This resolution does nothing to help the health and safety of our community. In fact, if this resolution were to pass, it would ultimately cost the lives of Kenai Peninsula borough citizens

Freedom?

Anti-mask and anti-vaccination backers often focus on personal choice and freedom. However, we would ALL have a lot more freedom if more people were vaccinated and were paying more careful attention to working together to stop the spread of the virus.

Schools?

I see that the resolution mentions the schools, that the borough assembly does not have the legal authority to waive mandates imposed by the school district.

If the schools were not allowed to impose a mask mandate, it may need to be recommended that the schools be closed for the health and safety of the community. As it is now, the schools pose a threat to the health of the community, given the transmission within the schools and the relative lack of proper mask wearing. Without an ability to use a mask mandate to help slow the spread in schools and keep them open, the schools may simply need to close all together. Having this anti-mandate resolution is not a step in the right direction for the health and safety of our schools or citizens.

Masks work.

Although not perfect, they are second only to vaccination in helping protect the health of the community from the spread of this deadly virus.

Hospital.

CPGH is already over capacity. Preventing simple public health measures such as mask mandates would not help that situation and impose unneeded scarcity on Kenai Peninsula borough citizens.

Lack of scientific understanding.

Borough officials have been quoted in media outlets demonstrating their ignorance of basic medical and scientific principles. This resolution is a continuation of that type of thinking, by downplaying very simple, easy ways to help save lives of Kenai Peninsula borough citizens.

Vaccination works. Masks work.

With respect, Jesse Kincaid

Broyles, Randi

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:50 PM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 2021-067

From: Cathleen Rolph <cathleenrolph@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:45 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Regarding KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 2021-067 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH TO BE AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY WHERE CITIZENS ARE TREATED EQUALLY AND EMPOWERED WITH FREE CHOICE

"WHEREAS the Kenai Peninsula Borough is an inclusive community, where all people should be treated equally, with equity, compassion, communal kindness, and understanding; and..."

Is it compassionate for some community members to care so little for their neighbor, that they would not take precautions against spreading a deadly virus? Is not getting the one thing that could protect themselves and their fellow community members an act of communal kindness? No, I think it's brutally ignorant and mean. Millions of people worldwide have been inoculated with good results. Rather than fear of the vaccine, there is ignorance and selfishness.

"WHEREAS through previously adopted legislation the borough assembly has expressed support for public health and encouraging people to get the COVID-19 vaccination, but not requiring citizens to be inoculated with a COVID-19 vaccine..."

If the Kenai Peninsula truly wishes to support public health and encourage people to get COVID-19 vaccines, how about holding public information meetings, going to churches, and political clubs to have doctors, pastors, and political leaders speak monthly at gatherings, and on radio stations about the need to get vaccinated and to wear masks until this pandemic is over. Maybe we need to stop being so individualistic and selfish. and political.

Remember history where Europeans came to America and unknowingly infected native Americans with smallpox, wiping out whole villages. The native Americans didn't have vaccines. We're so lucky to be living in a time when scientists know how to develop vaccines. Let's get this under control before whole cities and whole peninsulas are wiped out.

My body, my choice is a good rule of thumb when it comes to an individual's body, but when many, many people are in jeopardy because of the contagion factor of COVID-19 and the Delta variant, there needs to be **temporary** mandates. How hard is it to wear a mask for a while and get a free vaccine? Whole classrooms are being quarantined at times because of the spread of COVID. Whole families are getting sick with COVID-19. **90% of those who chose not to get vaccinated are the people who come down with COVID-19 and end up in our hospitals.**

Cathleen Rolph

41931 E. Redoubt Avenue

Soldotna, Alaska 99669

(907) 262-4561

Broyles, Randi

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:07 PM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>2021-067 Comments

-----Original Message-----

From: Dale Banks <dale@loopylupine.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:58 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>2021-067 Comments

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Mr Mayor and members of the Assembly,

I am opposed to resolution 2021-067. It is Orwellian in nature, with a feel good sounding title that completely ignores what the resolution is actually about. Mr Mayor, you are not a medical expert, you are not a virologist. Listen to the experts in the medical field on this topic.

Vaccinations are already required for attendance to public schools in the borough. Do you consider this a form of "vaccine segregation?"

The policy you are trying to promote cannot be enforced- businesses can refuse service or entry to anyone in most cases, except for racial discrimination.

This resolution accomplishes nothing, is misleading in nature, and is a waste of time for the Assembly and the public having to comment on such drivel.

Please vote no on this.

Thank you,

Dale Banks

PO Box 2888

Homer, AK 99603

Broyles, Randi

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:07 PM
To: Broyles, Randi
Subject: FW: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Opposed to Resolution 2021-067

From: Michael Hawfield <mchawfield@alaska.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:06 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni <JBlankenship@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Opposed to Resolution 2021-067

CAUTION:This email originated from outside of the KPB system. Please use caution when responding or providing information. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, know the content is safe and were expecting the communication.

Dear Borough Assembly Members

I strongly **oppose Resolution 2021-067** without major revision.

While I agree our Borough is diverse and ought to support diversity, this resolution only has the very narrow goal of standing against mandates meant to bring under control the current COVID-19 (and Delta Variant) outburst that threatens to overwhelm our health and education services, our freedom of movement and deeply hurts our economy. The only way out of this is to follow the science and follow the public health officials.

We are all part of a community – one that is diverse, but one that has rules designed to protect the peace and well-being of ALL its members. That is what public health mandates (vaccines, masks and public gatherings) do for ALL of us. To pretend that the pandemic is not a serious health threat is to prolong the community-wide impact of the disease.

I hear an awful lot about “rights” and “liberty” these days, but not much about the other side of the equation: responsibilities. It might be helpful to refresh on the last part of Article 1, Section 1 of the Alaska Constitution: “... and that all persons have corresponding obligations to the people and to the State.”

We all have the fundamental right to bodily integrity and to make our own health care decisions. But these rights are not absolute. They do not include the right to inflict harm on others.

Adopting a resolution such as **2021-067 is a disservice to ALL! I urge Assembly members not to adopt this resolution.**

--

Michael Hawfield
4606 S. Slope Dr.
Homer, AK 99603

907 299-0290

<https://alaska.zoom.us/j/9072990290>