



# KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

## Finance Department

144 N. Binkley Street, Soldotna, Alaska 99669  
Phone 907-262-4441 • Fax 907-262-1892

MIKE NAVARRE  
BOROUGH MAYOR

### MEMORANDUM

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

**THRU:** Mike Navarre, Mayor *MN*

**FROM:** Brandi Harbaugh, Acting Finance Director *BH*

**DATE:** July 6, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance 2017-19-*03* Appropriating \$1,500 for Costs of Printing and Distributing Information about the Ballot Proposition Seeking Voter Approval to Adopt an Additional Sales Tax on Temporary Lodging Facilities to Ensure Compliance with Legal Restrictions on the Use of Borough Funds and Assets Related to Ballot Propositions (Mayor)

The administration is planning to provide information to the public about the pending ballot proposition that, if approved by voters, would impose an additional sales tax on room-night charges at hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, inns, lodges and other such temporary lodging facilities.

Alaska State 15.13.145 prohibits the use of public funds to influence the outcome of an election, except that AS 15.13.145(b) allows public funds to be used to influence the outcome of an election if specifically appropriated for that purpose by municipal ordinance. The administration is seeking an appropriation of \$1,500 by the borough assembly to cover the costs of printing and distributing information about the ballot proposition to explicitly and fully comply with AS 15.13.145(b). The information would be factual and the printed material would be distributed at noticed public meetings throughout the borough at which members of the public could share their views on the ballot proposition.

Additionally, borough code prohibits the use of borough funds or public employees' in-kind services to promote the passage of ballot propositions. This ordinance would authorize the distribution of printed and electronic information by staff notwithstanding that code provision. While the administration believes the distribution of this information would not violate the code, this ordinance would resolve any potential legal issues by authorizing the dissemination of any prepared materials.

Your approval of this ordinance would be appreciated.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT VERIFIED	
Acct. No.	Amount
100.00000.00000.27910	\$ 1,500.00
Date: <i>7/6/17</i>	By: <i>BH</i>