

Havrilla, Brion

From: Blankenship, Johni
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 3:17 PM
To: Havrilla, Brion
Subject: FW: Resolution 2016-056

Public comment

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

From: Kristine Schmidt [<mailto:kschmidt@alaska.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 3:06 PM
To: Blankenship, Johni
Cc: Blaine Gilman
Subject: Resolution 2016-056

Dear Assembly Members:

I am writing to oppose Resolution 2016-056. The Assembly invocation controversy has flared up every few years since I moved to the Peninsula in 1982, and has proved to be very divisive. The Assembly does not need public prayers to do its business.

If Assembly members need words of inspiration to open an Assembly meeting, then please allow words of inspiration to be spoken, not just prayers by "qualifying" religious groups. Furthermore, I don't agree with the resolution's vetting process that limits invocations to only "qualifying" religious groups.

What is missing in the resolution is a statement that the giver of the invocation (not just the Assembly or employees) shall not direct those in attendance to stand, bow or participate. We are not in church when we attend an Assembly meeting, and it can be offensive to be ordered by an official of a religion (not your own) to pray there.

Finally, you should know that the Internal Revenue Service does not regulate churches. Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code is for charities (some of which are organized for religious purposes), not churches, although some churches do apply for and receive recognition under that law. So referring to section 501(c)(3) in the resolution when vetting churches may not always be helpful to the Assembly President. Especially when that section requires that "no part of the net earnings which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, no substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided in subsection (h)), and which does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office." I am afraid that some churches I am familiar with would not meet these requirements.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Kristine A. Schmidt

P.S. I would like to use eComment but it requires that you set up an account. Setting up an account allows the Borough's system to grab information about me and spy on me. I don't want to set up an account just to use eComment. I ask that you disable that feature (requirement to set up an account).

INVOCATION

2016-056

11 OCTOBER
2016

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;
I APPRECIATE THE MANY HOURS
EXPENDED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
REGARDING PUBLIC CONCERNS.

I WOULD REQUEST THAT
TWO THOUGHTS BE BROUGHT FORWARD
REGARDING THE FOUNDING OF OUR NATION...
THOMAS JEFFERSON IN WRITING THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE STATED
"ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL AND
THEY ARE ENDOWED BY THEIR
— CREATOR —
WITH CERTAIN INALIENABLE RIGHTS ..."

THE SECOND THOUGHT IS IN THE
FOURTH VERSE OF OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM...
"AND THIS BE OUR MOTTO
IN — GOD — IS OUR TRUST."

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME
THE TIME TO PUT FORTH THESE THOUGHTS.

SINCERELY,

14 HANDLEY

907-252-2144

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@borough.kenai.ak.us>

Date: March 19, 2018 at 11:06:20 AM HST

To: <assembly@kpb.us>

Subject: New Public Comment to Assembly Members

Reply-To: <kachechris@yahoo.com>

Your Name: Chris Fischer

Your Email: kachechris@yahoo.com

Subject: invocation policy

Message:

Dear assembly members,

I urge you not to continue the current course of action regarding the invocation policy. If this goes to court, you are going to lose. There is no doubt. This policy is unconstitutional and divisive. It is indefensible. You are wasting our money defending the indefensible.

Chris Fischer