KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

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Kelly Cooper, Assembly President Wayne Ogle, Vice President

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Kelly Cooper, Assembly President

Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM:

Kelly Cooper, Assembly President (B) for K.C.

Dale Bagley, Assembly Member DLB

DATE:

November 9, 2016

SUBJECT:

Resolution 2016-012, Amending the Assembly Policy Regarding Invocations

before Borough Assembly Meetings (Cooper, Bagley)

This resolution amends the invocation policy adopted in resolution 2016-056 to allow for the inclusion of speakers from a broader spectrum to better reflect the diversity of beliefs among the people of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Additionally, the amendments include some administrative provisions including the means for submitting written requests to the borough clerk's office. It limits speakers to offer no more than three invocations in any calendar year to help insure the opportunity is available for a variety of speakers to be scheduled for invocations. Finally, this includes a recommendation that invocations be not more than three minutes long which is consistent with the time period allowed for public comments.

In view of the concerns expressed by Mayor Navarre in his veto of resolution 2016-056, including the concerns regarding potentially expensive ongoing litigation, we believe this is an important step to take if the assembly wishes to continue including invocations at the beginning of its meetings.

Your support would be appreciated.