

Ninilchik Traditional Council P.O. Box 39070 Ninilchik, Alaska 99639 Phone: 907 567-3313 / Fax: 907 567-3308 E-mail: ntc@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov

RESOLUTION 2018-03

Resolution Opposing Moving the South Peninsula Hospital Service Area

WHEREAS, Ninilchik Village is a distinct, independent political community, and as such is qualified and exercises powers of self-government by reason of its original tribal sovereignty as passed down from its ancestors since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Ninilchik Village is a federally Recognized Indian Tribe in Alaska (Federal Register Volume 75, Number 190, October 1, 2010, Notices Pages 60810-60814); and

WHEREAS, the Ninilchik Traditional Council (NTC) is the Tribal Governing body for the Ninilchik Village, as recognized by the Constitution of the Tribe, with over 900 members and 55 employees; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Boundaries extend from the Kasilof River through Homer; and

WHEREAS, the Ninilchik Village Tribe contracts and receives grants from several federal agencies in order to administer health, social service, education, housing, environmental, and resource management programs in the Ninilchik Community; and

WHEREAS, the largest of these vital services is the Tribe's health operations, specifically the Ninilchik Traditional Council Community Clinic (NTCCC), which is a primary care clinic, providing acute and chronic medical, behavioral health, wellness, and prevention care services; and

WHEREAS, some of the NTCCC services include physician and midlevel providers, x-ray, lab, behavioral health, community health aide care, and health and wellness club activities for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, services at the NTCCC are provided to both Native and Non-Native community members, as well as visitors and anyone seeking healthcare in Ninilchik, and

WHEREAS, many community members residing from Homer through Soldotna utilize the NTCCC as their primary care provider; and

WHEREAS, the NTCCC has developed vital and necessary partnerships with South Peninsula Hospital (SPH), which include but are not limited to: tele-radiography readings and interpretations, ultrasound services and obstetric care; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Mr. Dale Bagley, has introduced an ordinance that would move the Central Peninsula Hospital (CPH) Service Area south; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance, if adopted, and if approved by CPH Service Area voters, could jeopardize NTCCC's ability to provide vital primary care and life-saving services to the community of Ninilchik; and

WHEREAS, state law only allows the borough to provide services in the service area, which is reflected in the borough code of ordinances as well; and

WHEREAS, if the NTCCC is moved outside of the SPH Service Area, the borough cannot legally enter into a contract that would allow services to be provided in a manner that violates borough code, thus effectively terminating a vital partnership between SPH and NTCCC for healthcare delivery; and

WHEREAS, the NTCCC had 3,170 patient encounter visits in fiscal year 2017, representing 637 individual patients, both Native and Non-Native; and

WHEREAS, when you consider the past two years, these numbers increase to 5,975 patient encounter visits, and over 1,482 patients, including over 600 from Ninilchik and 50 from Clam Gulch; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the health and well-being of our community to keep the boundaries as they currently are, not polarizing and splitting the community of Ninilchik in half, and maintaining the SPH service area north of the NTCCC, as we cannot afford to lose providers, ultrasound, and x-ray reading services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ninilchik Traditional Council (NTC) hereby ardently and vehemently opposes any efforts by the Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) or their Assembly Member(s) to change the current CPH/SPH Service Area boundaries; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT EVEN FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NTC authorizes its Executive Director, Tribal Health Director, providers, and staff to articulate this position to the KPB and others on behalf of the tribe.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ______ day of ______ April_____, 2018 at Ninilchik, Alaska.

NINILCHIK TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

Richard Greg Encelewski, NTC President/Chairman

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Ninilchik Traditional Council on the 25^{H} day of 46^{H} , 2018 at Ninilchik, Alaska, by a vote of

______ FOR, _____ O ___AGAINST, _____ O ____ABSENT, and ______NOT VOTING.

Whitney Schollenberg, Secretary/Treasurer