Introduced by:

Cooper, Bagley

Date:

09/04/18

Action:

Adopted

Vote:

9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH RESOLUTION 2018-037

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ALASKA AVALANCHE INFORMATION CENTER'S EFFORTS TO INSTALL SAFETY SIGNS AT KEY SNOWMOBILE ACCESS POINTS TO PROVIDE CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR BACKCOUNTRY WINTER TRAVEL TO RAISE AWARENESS AND PREPARE SKIERS AND RIDERS FOR SAFE MOUNTAIN TRAVEL

- WHEREAS, Alaska is ranked number one in the nation for both snowmobile and avalanche related injuries and deaths per capita; and
- WHEREAS, Alaska is a recreational mecca attracting thousands each winter to snow machine, hike, ski, snowboard, and sled; and
- WHEREAS, the Alaska Avalanche Information Center ("AAIC") is a non-profit organization providing avalanche forecast and education services in six regions around Alaska; and
- WHEREAS, Alaskan's youth and new visitors to this state continue to be attracted to the rugged wilderness and mountains of this state due to advances in technology and motorized vehicles like snowmobiles, snow cats, airplanes and helicopters putting them at greater risk of avalanches and snowmobile related injuries; and
- WHEREAS, providing education, critical information and messaging regarding backcountry travel has the potential to raise awareness and greatly reduce the number of incidents and fatalities associated with avalanches;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

- **SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Borough Assembly recognizes the need for backcountry education and awareness to help reduce unintentional injuries and deaths and supports the efforts of the Alaska Avalanche Information Center to inform and educate those who travel, work and recreate in mountain terrain through education outreach and placement of signs warning of potential danger at critical access points with written permission of land owners.
- SECTION 2. That a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Alaska Avalanche Information Center and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Alaska State Trails Program.

SECTION 3. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 4TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018.

Wayne H. Ogle,

Assembly President

ATTEST:

John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk

Yes:

Bagley, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cooper, Dunne, Fischer, Hibbert, Smalley, Ogle

No:

None

Absent:

None