

02019-11

From: Deena Benson [<mailto:nosnebaneed@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, June 30, 2019 6:25 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk <G_Notify_AssemblyClerk@kpb.us>
Subject: <EXTERNAL-SENDER>Ordinance 2019-11

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Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly;

I am writing to you as the representatives of the Kenai Peninsula, and, as I am a home owner and voter therein; please be advised that I am opposed to repealing the need for voter approval to raise the tax cap.

For 41 years the population of the Kenai Peninsula was small and so were the taxes. I know, I've lived here since 1957, before Alaska became a State. I've been a home-owner here since 1982. I pay sales tax, and real estate tax and fire/ems district tax and South Peninsula Hospital tax.

In 2005 voters became involved in a tax increase and used the initiative process to approve a raise in sales taxes to 2%, with a cap of 3%. The Assembly later approved, legally and without a citizen vote, to raise the taxes to the cap of 3%. The next tax cap hike legally needs to be taken to the polls.

I understand that voters have turned down the request to raise the tax cap in the past, and that is my point. The citizens have the right to limit spending by the Borough and that's one way to do it. If more money is needed for services, I suggest more transparency in stating on the ballot what exactly is needed and what the consequences will be if it's not approved.

This ordinance is already effectively raising the tax income from the citizens by increasing the taxable sale... by double. (\$500-\$1000).

As my representative on the Borough Assembly I ask that you amend the Ordinance to delete the repeal of voter approval, and support the taxable sales increase amount.

Thank you.

Deena Benson
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