

DENALI BOROUGH

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DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA RESOLUTION NO. 20-15 INTRODUCED BY: MAYOR CLAY WALKER

A RESOLUTION OF THE DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY SUPPORTING THE RETURN OF THE CRUISE INDUSTRY TO ALASKAN WATERS AND ALASKAN COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the cruise industry transports approximately 60 percent of all summer visitors to Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the tourism industry is the largest economic driver in the Denali Borough; and

WHEREAS, overnight accommodations taxes account for nearly 80% of borough revenue and the majority of those taxes are paid by cruise visitors; and

WHEREAS, the entire tourism industry, whether it be small tour companies, remote lodges, or large operators, all benefit from cruise line marketing, even if visitors arrive via methods other than cruise ships; and

WHEREAS, visitors who cruise across the Gulf of Alaska fly either to or from Alaska, providing more commercial air flight options for residents of Alaska to utilize; and

WHEREAS, a full quarter of non-cruise visitors to Alaska have previously cruised to Alaska, and independently return to Alaska again; and

WHEREAS, most cruise lines have cancelled their 2020 Alaska season due to COVID-19 related restrictions; and

WHEREAS, only cruise ships can transport the volume of visitors vital to our local tourism economy which is needed to stabilize our general economic well-being and;

WHEREAS, the cancellation of cruise tour packages to the Denali Borough is causing great economic distress to our small businesses and local borough government.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Denali Borough Assembly encourages the cruise line industry to return to Alaska, particularly with ships that cross the Gulf of

Alaska, as it is mutually beneficial to local businesses, communities, and the cruise industry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Denali Borough Assembly supports actions taken by the State of Alaska and the United States of America to encourage the cruise lines to return to Alaskan waters and Alaskan communities as soon as it is safe and practical.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Denali Borough Assembly this 9th day of September, 2020.



MAYOR CLAY WALKER

ATTEST:



AMBER RENSHAW, BOROUGH CLERK

VOTE: UNANIMOUS
ABSENT: HOLMES, BOELSMA

