

# **DENALI BOROUGH**

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## **DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA RESOLUTION NO. 22-01**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY IDENTIFYING DENALI BOROUGH LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE 32<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA BEGINNING JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, the funding level of the Community Assistance Program has declined by over fifty percent from a seven years ago; and

**WHEREAS**, the Denali Borough utilizes this funding to support providers of essential and direct public services including fire and ems response; and

**WHEREAS**, the Community Assistance Fund was not fully re-capitalized in the FY22 budget, further reducing future funding; and

**WHEREAS**, significant issues relating to the unfunded liability within the state managed PERS/TRS retirement programs were resolved through a 2008 agreement wherein all participants agreed to a 22% employer contribution cap for PERS and a 12.5% cap for TRS; and

**WHEREAS**, by extending the amortization period of the debt, the state burdened the municipalities with an additional \$2.5 billion in costs relating to the unfunded liability; and

**WHEREAS**, the waysides provided by DOT&PF through the Parks Highway corridor are closed a majority of the year. For the comfort and enjoyment of the travelling public and to encourage a longer visitor season, these essential services need to remain usable; and

**WHEREAS**, deterioration of the state's fiscal condition threatens the state's ability to meet its constitutional obligations to education, public safety, and public health; and

**WHEREAS**, as a political subdivision of the state, the Denali Borough needs a reliable and fiscally sound partner in shared responsibilities, such as major school maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's proposed budget utilizes one-time federal American Rescue Act funds to balance revenues and expenses.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Denali Borough Assembly respectfully requests the Alaska State Legislature favorably consider:

- Recapitalizing the Community Assistance Fund to its full \$90 million to ensure future payments.
- Opposing any efforts to increase the non-state employer contributions to the PERS/TRS retirement systems.
- Opposing cost shifts to municipalities.
- Provide funding to DOT&PF to operate Alaska's waysides throughout the year.
- Supporting a balanced approach to resolving the state's projected budget deficits.
- Taking measurable steps toward a sustainable fiscal plan for a healthy Alaskan future.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Denali Borough Assembly this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

  
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MAYOR CLAY WALKER

ATTEST:   
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AMBER RENSHAW, BOROUGH CLERK

VOTE: UNANIMOUS:

