

A Resolution of the Haines Borough in support of municipal revenue sharing and the identification of a source of funding.

WHEREAS, the Alaska Statehood Act and the Alaska Constitution Article X both indicate strong and vibrant local government units; and

WHEREAS, the Haines Borough commends the Governor and the Legislature for approving and funding the Municipal Revenue Sharing program which established a \$60 million annual revenue sharing program; and

WHEREAS, local government taxation contributes to the provision of essential services of education, safety, and transportation that would otherwise be required to be fully funded by the state; and

WHEREAS, local governments are experiencing significant financial pressure resulting from inflation, high energy costs, and a faltering economy; and

WHEREAS, maintaining \$60 million in annual Revenue Sharing is vital to the health of Alaskan communities in providing essential local services and/or keeping property taxes down; and

WHEREAS, the stipulation that Municipal Revenue Sharing would be funded from a specific source annually provided predictability to municipalities in the determination of revenue projections; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the Revenue Sharing funding source from oil tax legislation and the requirement that Revenue Sharing be funded from the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, given the multiple pressures on the General Fund which will add to a heightened uncertainty that Municipal Revenue Sharing will be funded;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Haines Borough Assembly urges the Governor and the Legislature to stipulate a funding source for Municipal Revenue Sharing payments; and to appropriate sufficient funds to maintain the annual \$60 million Revenue Sharing payments for FY14 and beyond as a vital component of the state Operating Budget, plus a supplemental of \$25 million to help with catastrophic energy costs.

ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly this 26th day of March, 2013.

Attest:

Stephanie Scott, Mayor

Julie Cozzi, MMC, Borough Clerk