



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

2014 AUG 11 PM 3:13
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M.O.A.

DATE: August 11, 2014

TO: Patrick Flynn, Assembly Chair
Anchorage Assembly

FROM: Mayor Daniel A. Sullivan *Dan Sullivan*

SUBJECT: Veto of AO 2014-74; Repeal of AO 2013-37(S-2) and cancellation of the related referendum.

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Charter section 5.02(c), I hereby veto AO 2014-74, which seeks to repeal AO 2013-37(S-2) ("Responsible Labor Act") and cancel the related referendum.

After 20 hours of public testimony and multiple in-depth work sessions with the union representatives and the assembly (more attention paid to this than to any other piece of legislation in the past 4 years); the Municipality adopted the Responsible Labor Act.

My goals in introducing the Responsible Labor Act were to put into place administrative changes that would guide future labor negotiations, address gaps in the code that led to costly disputes, and return balance to the negotiation process lost under the last administration.

A significant amount of the ordinance addresses long-standing structural, definitional, and practical defects that have built up in the Municipal Code over several generations and many, many amendments. Special interest objections to a few provisions do not constitute a sound reason to repeal the Act.

We have successfully negotiated 7 union contracts using the concepts and ideas adopted in the Act.

Both sides have advocated for letting voters decide the fate of the Act. The Municipality and the State of Alaska have entered into an agreement that allows us to keep the costs of the referendum election very low. We have worked long and hard to give voters a voice; let's let them speak.