Submitted by: Assembly Member Sulte Prepared by: Legislative Services Office

Reviewed by:

For reading: February 25, 2025

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA DRAFT AR No. 2025-____

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY URGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO IMPLEMENT PROPERTY TAX ESCALATION LIMITATIONS SIMILAR TO FLORIDA'S "SAVE OUR HOMES" CAP

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WHEREAS, property tax increases can impose significant financial burdens on homeowners, particularly those on fixed incomes, such as senior citizens, families, and long-term residents; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has implemented property tax limitations to ensure that property taxes do not escalate beyond reasonable levels; and

WHEREAS, the Florida "Save Our Homes" (SOH) amendment to the state constitution limits the assessed value of homestead-exempt properties to a maximum increase of 3% annually, or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower; and

WHEREAS, the Florida system also includes a provision known as "portability," which allows homeowners to transfer the difference between their assessed value and the market value when moving to a new homestead property within the state; and

WHEREAS, Florida also imposes a 10% cap on the annual increase in the assessed value of non-homestead properties, such as second homes, rental properties, and commercial real estate, providing stability for property owners and businesses alike; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly believes that a similar approach to property tax escalation limitations could provide substantial benefits to Alaska homeowners, renters, and businesses, particularly in light of the rising costs of living and the economic challenges many residents are facing; and

WHEREAS, limiting the escalation of property taxes through caps, like Florida's SOH and the non-homestead property cap, would help stabilize tax rates, promote homeownership, and ensure that property tax increases are predictable and manageable for Alaska's residents.

WHEREAS, this may be accomplished through a state law change authorizing municipalities, including home rule, by amending AS 29.45.010-.250.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

<u>Section 1.</u> To request the Alaska State Legislature take action to develop and implement property tax limitations similar to Florida's "Save Our Homes" cap and non-homestead property cap, with the goal of protecting homeowners and

7	promoting fairness in the property tax system across Alaska.
2 3 4 5	<u>Section 2.</u> State legislation should include a portability provision allowing Alaska homeowners to transfer tax savings to new homesteads when moving within the state.
6 7 8 9	Section 3. To call on the State of Alaska for a thorough analysis of how these measures could be implemented in Alaska's current tax structure.
10 11 12	Section 4. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.
13 14 15 16	PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this day of, 2025.
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	ATTEST: Chair of the Assembly Municipal Clerk
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