

APPROVED

Date: 3-8-11

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS GRAY-JACKSON
Drummond and Gutierrez
Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office
For reading: March 8, 2011

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 2011-64**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY IN SUPPORT OF ALASKA
SENATE BILL 11, TO ADDRESS HATE CRIMES, NOW PENDING BEFORE THE
27TH ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE, FIRST SESSION.**

WHEREAS, increasingly, there are chilling reports of criminal violence against helpless individuals who are members of ethnic, racial, or religious minorities, or simply present themselves differently to the ire and hatred of the criminal perpetrator; and

WHEREAS, under current law, AS 12.55.155(c)(22), the commission of an underlying crime because of the victim's race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, ancestry, or national origin is a factor supporting sentencing above the standard presumptive range, but the list of characteristics is too narrow; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Senate Bill 11 (SB 11) proposes Alaska Statute amendments to chapter 11.76, Miscellaneous Offenses, to codify "hate crimes", and to chapter 12.55, Sentencing and Probation, to broaden the list of protected characteristics to better reflect the victims of hate; and

WHEREAS, without creating a new list of criminal acts as "hate crimes", passage of SB 11 will reclassify the level of any crime up one notch, and thereby increase the penalty range when the underlying crime is motivated by prejudice, bias, or hatred based on the victim's race, sex, color, creed, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, ancestry, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, when crimes are committed to target personal characteristics, the crime is two-fold; and

WHEREAS, the effects of minority hatred undermine our democratic principles, no matter the minority targeted; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage is a city of minorities, together building our community and our future;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

The Anchorage Assembly supports Alaska SB 11, and all our state legislators are encouraged to move forward, during this legislative session, measures to strengthen our community and forcefully meet the challenges of criminal hatred.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 8th day of March, 2011.

[Signature]
Chair

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Municipal Clerk